

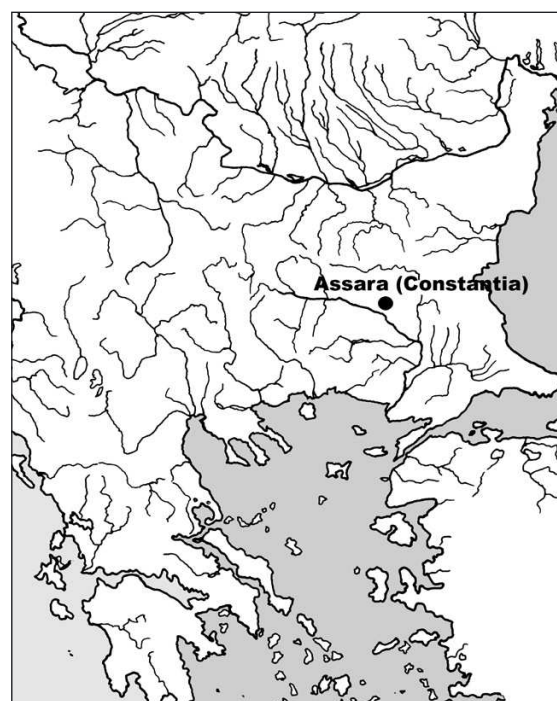
The Thracian Settlement at Assara (Constantia) near Simeonovgrad¹

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The excavations of Assara² (Constantia) are one of the largest field activities undertaken by the Historical Museum of Khaskovo. They have been partially published but attention was focused mainly on the remains from the Roman period onwards. In some of his works, the author of these pages has also referred to the EBA pottery from the site, yet selectively and to support one or another idea concerning the later prehistory of the Eastern Balkans. Beyond any doubt, the excavations and the abundant materials yielded deserve better examination. This article considers the remains from the Bronze Age and to some extent – the Iron Age. Complementary to the main objectives are some special problems as the nature of the palaeo-environment, the topography of the settlements in the region, their interpretation as elements of the settlement pattern, etc., that are briefly discussed in the text.

The Assara plateau lies now on the right bank of the Maritsa river, some 1.5 km southeast from the town of Simeonovgrad in the southern part of Upper Thrace (Fig. 1). The flat watershed holds out favourable conditions of settling, including optimal visibility over the whole region and fresh water springs in its foothills, still existing today. The place is known among the locals under two toponyms: Assara (the Fortress) and Malkija Assar (the Little Fortress). The second name is given to the natural extension of the main hill to the east (Fig. 2).

In the past the surface of the plateau has been long time under cultivation. In result, pottery sherds from different periods (EBA, EIA/LIA, Roman period, Late Antiquity and Middle Ages) are spread all over the terrain. The periphery of the site is enclosed by a defence wall and the remains of solid stone foundations are visible in the inner zone (Аладжов, Д. 1995). A low elevation reminding of small settlement mound is noticeable on the terrain in the north-eastern part of the plateau. The bench mark (BM) is sit-



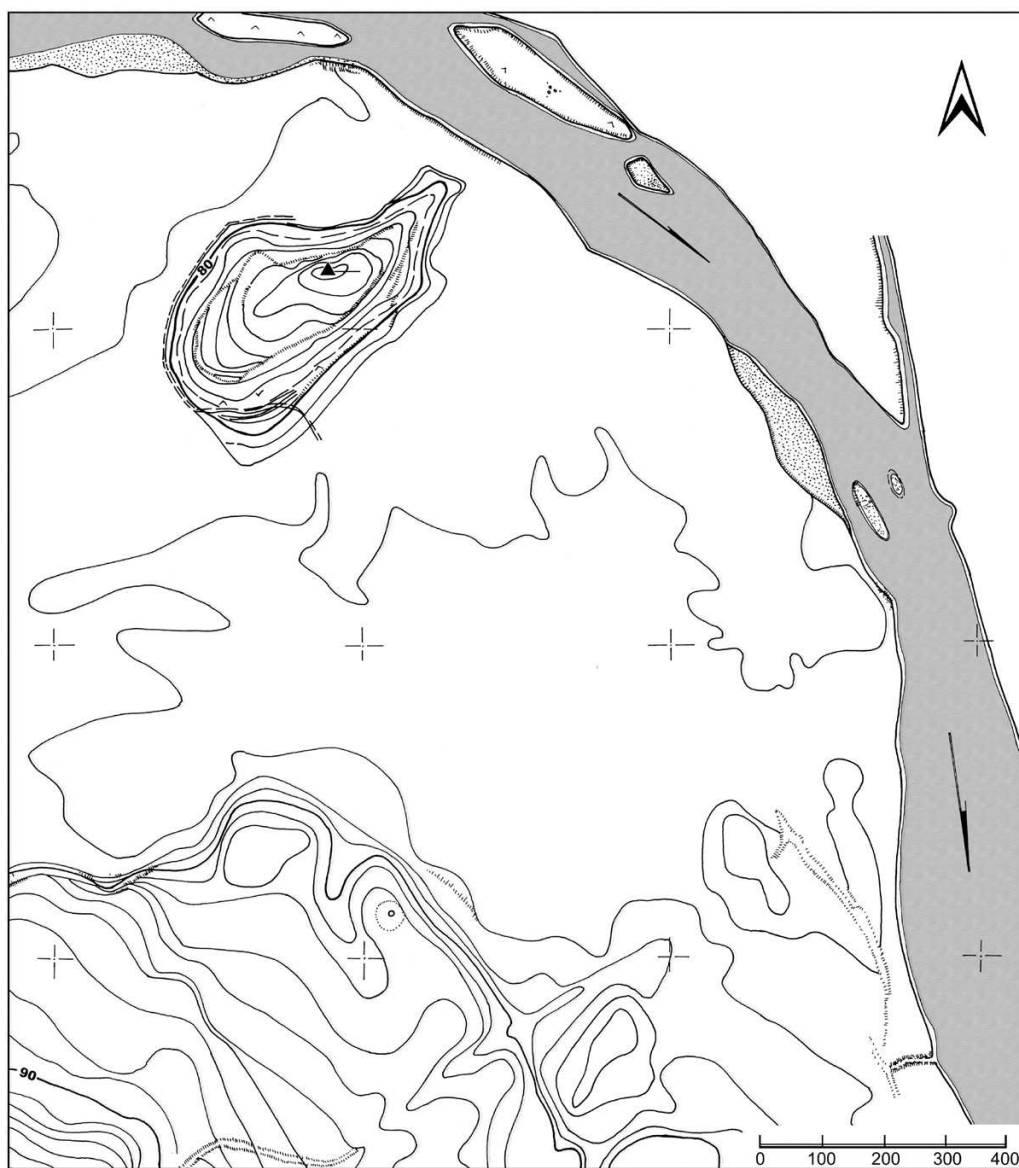
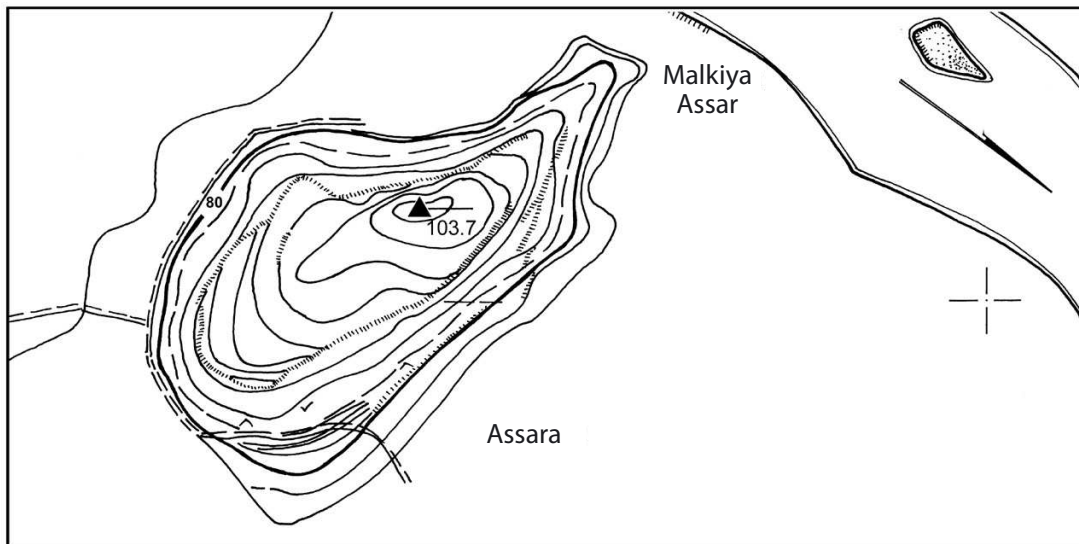
Фиг. 1. Разположение на Асара (Констанция) на Балканите.

Fig. 1. Situation of the Assara (Constantia) site at the Balkan peninsula.

uated here the triangulation column at the 103.7 m altitude (Fig. 2). The treasure-hunters' diggings have destroyed mainly the fortification wall. Another serious damage was caused by the farmers, who years on end have taken out stones from the old buildings in order to expand the arable land. Malkiya Assar has been elevated by bulldozers during construction works connected with the heaping up of embankments along the Maritsa river. As the later soundings have cleared out, one of the Christian necropolises had been destroyed then.

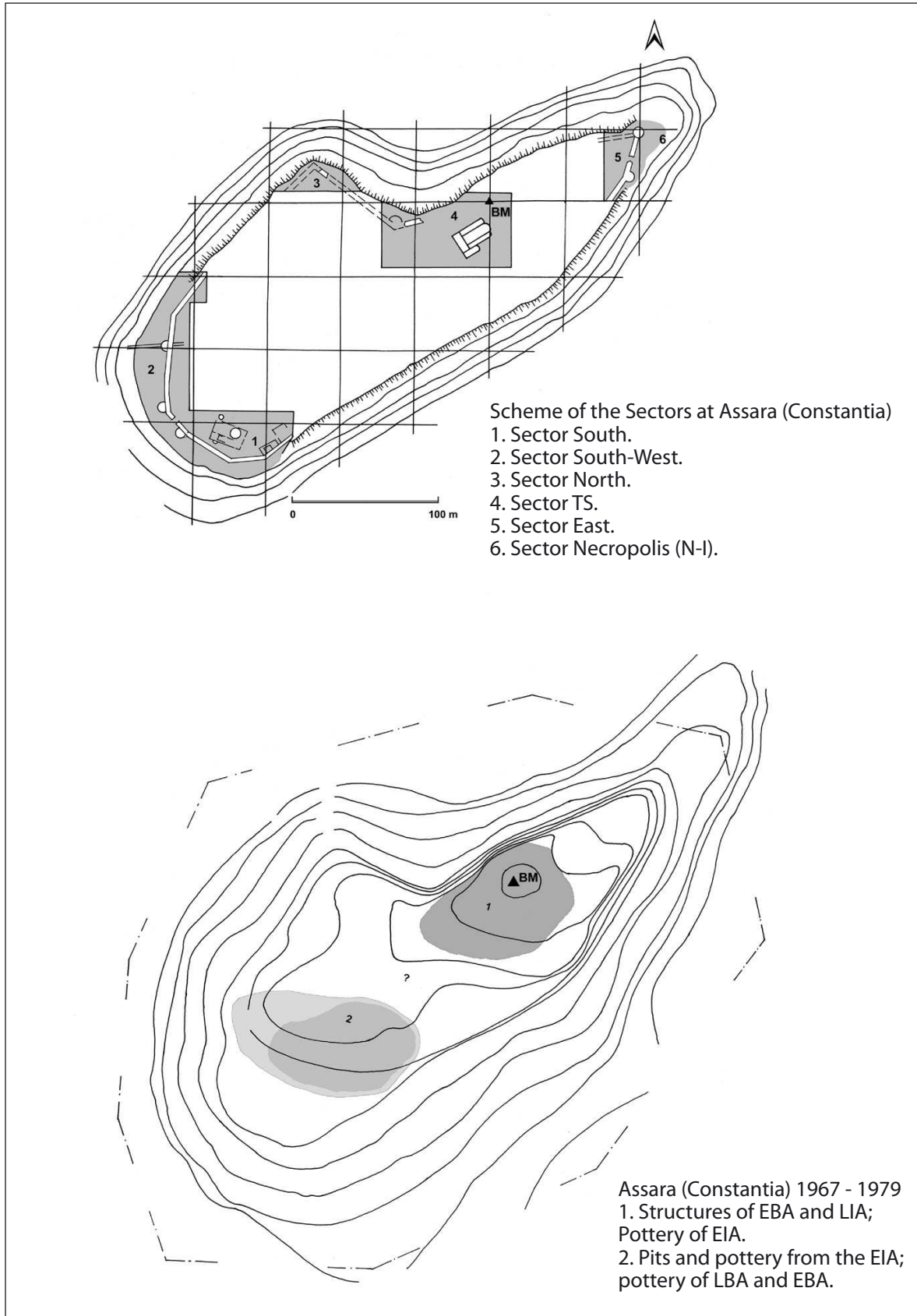
Investigations of the plateau

The excavations have begun on July 1, 1967, provoked by a treasure-hunters' intervention that



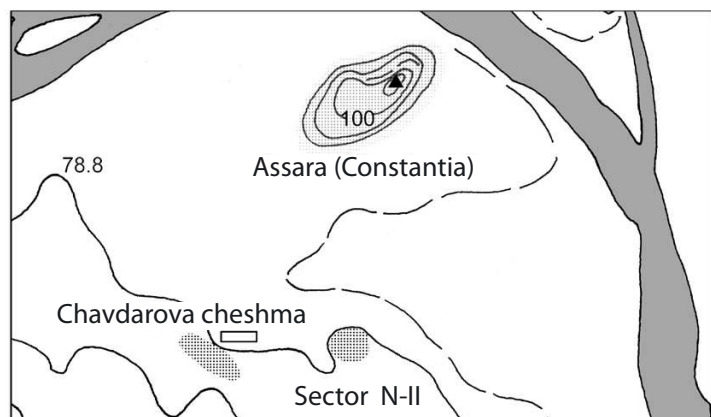
Фиг. 2. Топография на Асара (Констанция) и районът около платото.

Fig. 2. Topography of the plateau Assara and its surroundings.



Фиг. 3. Схема на Секторите и реконструкция на топографията през III – I хил. пр. Хр.

Fig. 3. Scheme of the different Sectors of the excavations at the plateau and the reconstruction of the topography of the sites in the 3 – 1 mill. BC.



Фиг. 4. Разположение на сондажите извън платото Асара.

Fig. 4. Scheme of the Sectors of the excavations in the Assara plateau vicinity.

revealed part of the west fortification wall³. After a certain break fieldworks have been resumed in 1975 and until the last season in 1979 were conducted by D. Aladzov⁴. Further investigations have been carried out in 1997 in the western part of the so-called Thracian settlement⁵. They have been undertaken in order to record undisturbed LIA layer, which could eventually belong to an ancient emporium like that in Pistiros but they ended without any positive result, most probably.

In view of the vast territory of the plateau – over 5 ha, it is divided in several sectors (Fig.3. 1). In 1967 the excavations are restricted in Sector South-West along the fortification wall with towers 1 to 3 and the tunnel under it. A grid of 5-m squares was set up over the exposed area, designated by Cyrillic letters and Arabic figures (Fig. 26). A number of EIA pits has been excavated there, which will be commented infra. A control sounding of 9 area m (3 x 3 m) is set up at the summit in the northern part of the plateau, near the triangulation point. Within this sounding the natural soil at base of the hill is reached and cultural layers from the mediaeval period to the BA are traced out.

In 1976 the excavations continue in two sectors – South and North⁶. An independent grid of 5-m squares is set up in Sector North, designated by Cyrillic letters and Arabic figures. The old sounding lies in grid-area D₁. An area of 100 sq. m is then explored but here runs the bed of the fortification wall, so the earliest remains are considerably less exposed. The results of this campaign confirmed the observations about the predominance of IA and BA materials. In sector South the excavations are enlarged. Although the excavations yielded considerable amount of materials pertaining to the EIA and to a less extent – to the LIA, they are not associ-

ated with structural remains (Аладжов, Д. 1981).

In 1977 field season the area of Sector North is extended. The square grid is completely renovated and covers the whole plateau. It is bound with the summit and it consists of major 50-m sections divided on their part in 5-m squares, designated by Latin letters and Arabic figures. The same year began the investigations of the necropolis on Malkija Assar (Sector N – I), as well as near the modern cemetery south of the fortress – Sector N – II (Fig. 3.1, 4).

In the next year fieldworks continued in three sectors – Sector South, Sector North (new), and Sector TS, i.e. the ‘Thracian settlement’. According to the new grid, sector South falls within sections X and Y. A new Sector East is opened, which covers only the fortification wall. In 1979 season fieldworks are restricted to Sector TS and Sector South and the excavation team is dropped off. The efforts are focused on basic problems concerning the fortress and the sequence of ‘Thracian settlement’ layers. This is actually the last campaign of investigations on Assara itself. All later soundings are in the vicinity of the plateau. It is worth to discuss the results of the excavations in two other sectors only – Chavdarova cheshma and Sector N-II (Necropolis II near the modern cemetery of Zlati dol quarter). They are summarized after the survey of layers assigned to 3 – 1 millennia BC on the main plateau.

As it is clear from that brief overview, the working strategy is rather complicated and everyone, who wants to locate and plot the earlier structures, could not avoid a lot of difficulties. Additional embarrassment is caused by the fact that old squares do not coincide with the new ones neither in size, nor in orientation. There is no complete plan of the ear-

lier structures fixed to the modified square grid. That is why the localization of the finds and the reconstruction of the topography could only be approximate.

Topography and stratigraphy of the EBA layer on the Assara plateau

Topography

Most probably only a part of the plateau is extensively occupied during EBA (Fig. 3.2). Compact deposits are concentrated in its northern part and close to the ridge edge. Pottery sherds in the rest of the sectors are obviously transported; they are in low concentrations, scattered and not associated with any better preserved remains. Yet, there is the possibility that some lighter structures with adjacent yards existed there, totally destroyed by later constructions. Some finds from tower No. 5 in Sector East, including almost whole vessels⁷, might support such assumption. Even if the entire area is occupied, we still do not know whether part of the terrain is used for arable land back in the EBA. What is established for sure is the absence of prehistoric materials on Malkija Assar. If our first suggestion is correct, the EBA site on the plateau covers an area no more than 0.2 or 0.3 ha, i.e. it falls rather in the category of medium-size than large EBA settlements, as compared to some neighbour contemporary sites: Galabovo – not less than 0.7 ha, Madrets 1 (Gudzhova mogila) – at least 0.5 ha, Djadovo – over 1 ha, roughly the same is the inhabited size of Ezero. According to its presumable dimensions, Assara (Constantia) stands closer to Nova Zagora, Kazanluk, Razkopanitsa and Ognyanovo.

Stratigraphy and characteristics of the deposits

The EBA layer is seriously disturbed up to a depth of 1.5 – 2 m by the construction of the fortification wall and the basilica (Fig. 3.1). Stratigraphic data is available only from the north-eastern sounding. Although its size is 750 sq. m, the area with undamaged EBA structures is much lesser. Four EBA building levels are recorded there above the yellowish clay-sandy virgin soil (Table I). Building level 1 is fixed at a depth of ▼ 1.40 – 1.70 m in areas G₁, C₇₉ and C₈₀ but is highly provisional due to its poor state of preservation. It is reasonable to presume the existence of one or more levels above, now completely destroyed, judging from the field description of the finds position. Layers of ca. 0.10

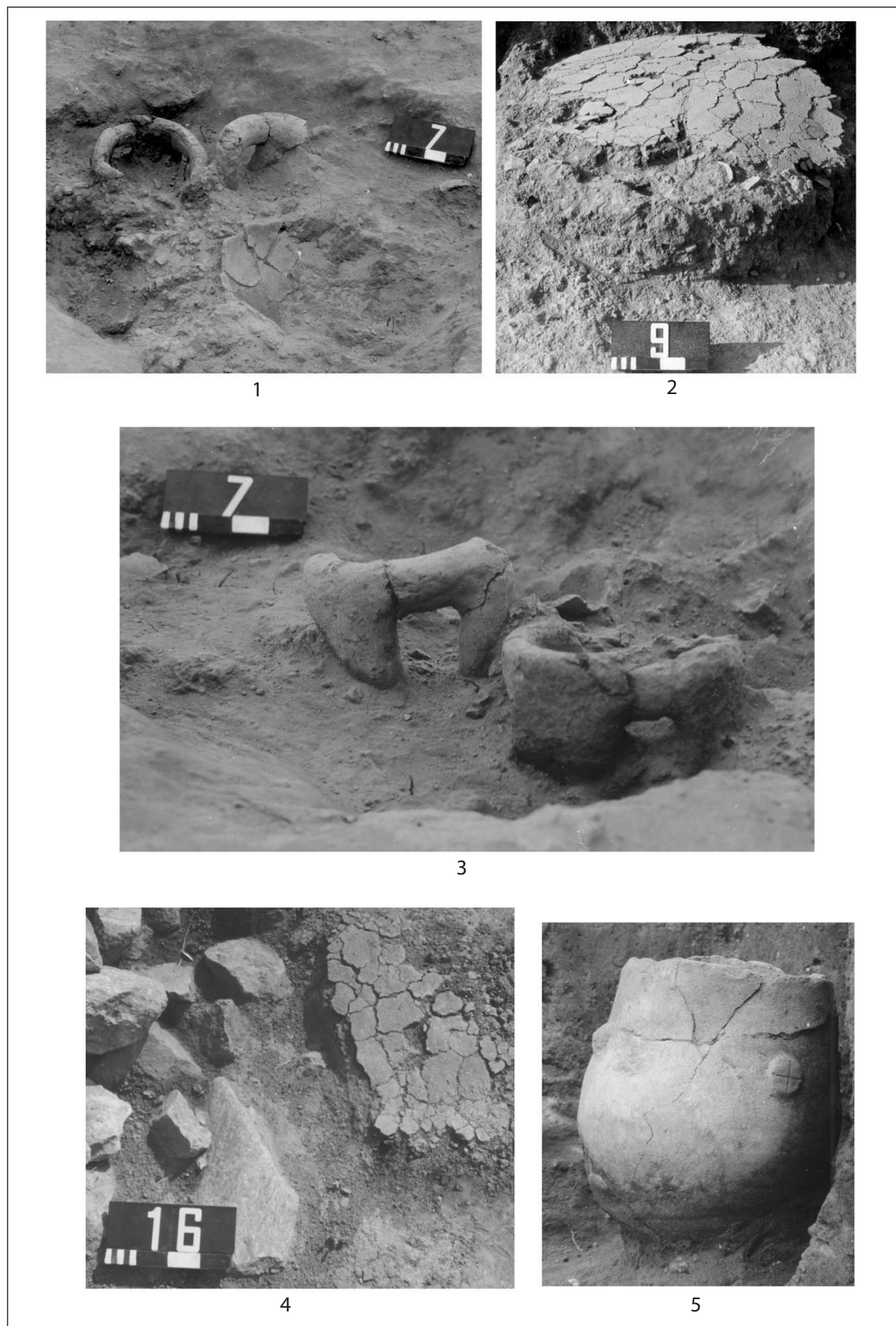
m thick fine-textured clay are recorded between the separate horizons, indicating some levelling of the terrain after destruction of each settlement.

Building levels	Average depths (BM)
la – unrecorded	▼ 0. 90 – ▼ 1. 10 m;
I (A-I)	▼ 1. 40 – ▼ 1. 70 m;
II (A-II)	▼ 1. 70 – ▼ 2. 00 m;
III (A-III)	▼ 2. 00 – ▼ 2. 40 m;
IV (A-IV)	▼ 2. 40 – ▼ 2. 70 m.
Virgin base	▼ 2. 70 m

Table I.

Stratigraphy of the EBA layer in Assara (Constantia). In brackets are given the designations of building levels, according to the field notebooks. Depths are towards BM in area D₁.

Scanty evidence for floors, poorly preserved, exists for the disturbed strata above first building horizon. One is partially exposed at a depth of ▼ 0.90 – 1.10 m in area I₉. Building level 1 itself is recognized by the burnt house debris in area S₇₉ at a depth of ▼ 1.40 – 1.70 m BM and adjacent S₈₀. An intact ‘*depas amphycypon*’ cup is found at a depth of ▼ 1.70 m in area G₁, out of dwelling context. According to the field notebook, it is found on Friday, July 1, 1977 in ‘loose ashy soil’. Here the EBA stratum is spared by later intervention – there is only one LIA pit recovered in the south-western corner of the square at a depth of ▼ 1.80 – 1.90 m. However, the horizon in general is strongly affected by later structures – the fortification wall and a number of pits. Second level is distinguished by house debris at a depth of ▼ 1.70 m. The construction technique is wattle-and-daub with average wall-thickness of 0.15 m. Several interior features are unearthed including oven, hearth and stone mortar, as well as some quite unusual pot-stands. Another burnt house basement, associated with third building level, is revealed in area G₁ at a depth from ▼ 2.00 – 2.10 m to ▼ 2.20 – 2.30 m. Parts of burnt house floors are reported also in squares S₇₉₋₈₀ and S₈₉; I₉₋₁₀ but these in the last two squares are intersected by the Late Antiquity fortification wall. Virgin soil of the hill base is reached in 1979 in areas I₉₋₁₀, C₈₉₋₉₀ and C₉₉₋₁₀₀ at a depth of ▼ 2,70 m. Above it a compact



Фиг. 5. Структури in situ, Асара (Констанция), Сектор ТС.
Fig. 5. Archaeological structures in situ, Assara, Sector TS.

layer of black soil is detected, which yielded a few pottery sherds; a single better preserved small vessel is found there. That layer limited between level 3 and the natural soil gives the end of stratigraphic sequence and is designated as building 4. Data for it is scanty and insufficient, maybe because the studied area is not occupied.

There is no evidence on the necropolis of the site. The single EBA intramural grave is that of a child, found at a depth of 0.30 m beneath the floor of a dwelling of the third level (▼ 2.30 m in C₁₀₀). The oval pit is dug into hard yellowish soil from the levelling between the third and the fourth settlements. The burial is inhumation in crouched position to the left with head facing to the northwest. According to the Pl. Georgiev's identification, the child is 6 to 7 years old. There are no grave goods.

Interior features

All stable EBA structures are identified as dwelling remains. There is no evidence for storage rooms or structures connected with economic activities. The interior is typical for EBA in Upper Thrace, including ovens, hearths, etc. (Fig. 5. 2, 4). Exceptional are several features of unbaked beaten clay, interpreted as 'pot-stands'. Two examples are found *in situ* in a dwelling of the second building level, overburdened by wall debris (Fig. 5. 1, 3). Unfortunately, no details about their context within the dwelling are given. The features are made out of clay rings standing on three legs and set on another clay ring, which is incorporated in the floor. They are slanting in the same direction as the fallen walls. Fragments of a wide open vessel are found, also broken *in situ*, in the immediate vicinity, and it is considered that it has been placed on one of the 'pot-stands'. From the same building level derives another type of 'pot-stand', which is portable (Fig. 7.5-6). A side fragment of an oval feature is preserved, the upper part of which is highly polished. Handle and legs are visible, and the base is covered with fingerprint imprints, which, according to Pl. Georgiev, are made to increase the cohesion surface (Fig.7.6)⁸.

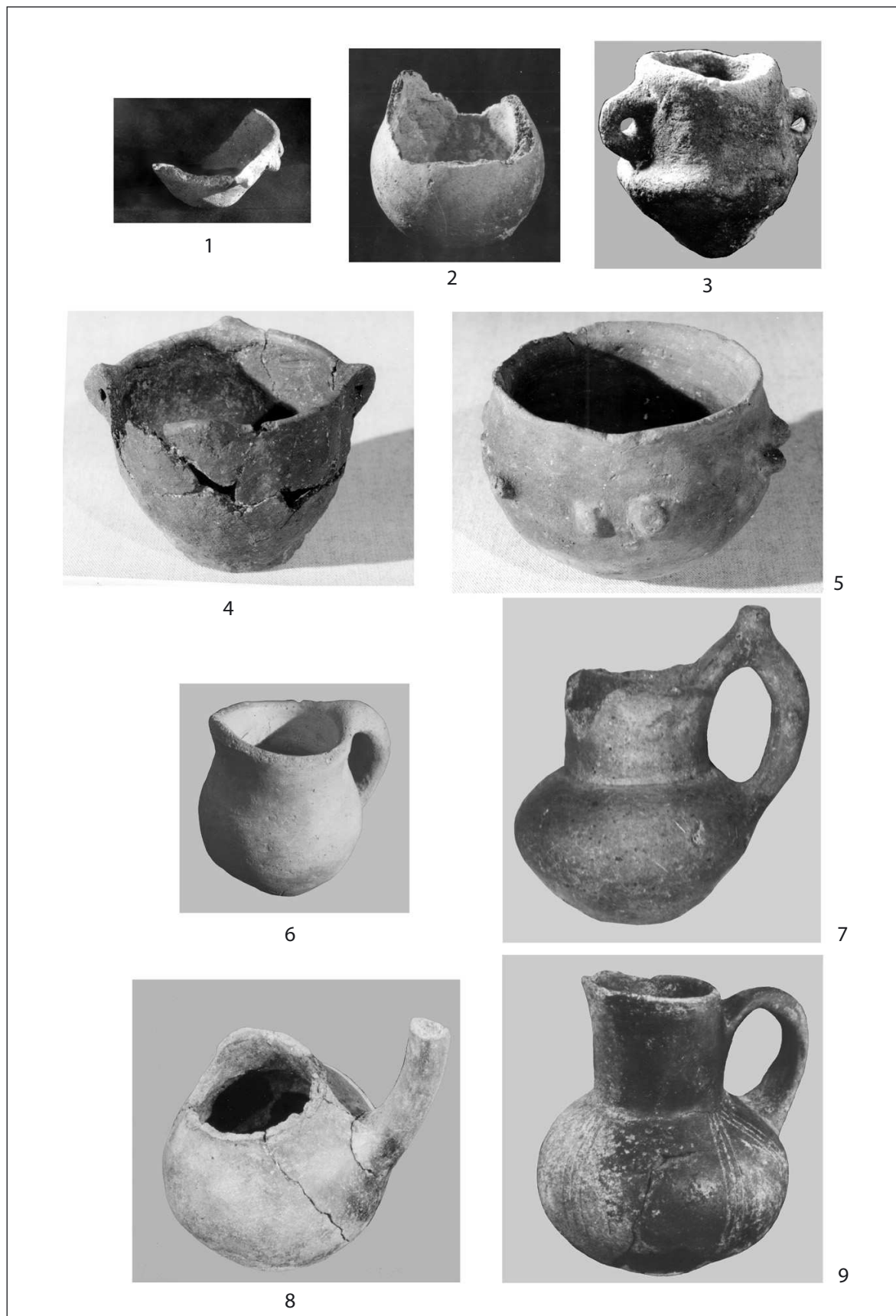
A remote functional parallel of the stationary stands could be found in the neighbour site of Galabovo (Лещаков, К. 2003, 80, Обр. 2a). There the feature is recovered in the kitchen area of the house, adjacent to the oven and the hearth, which gives credit to its interpretation as a cooking pot-

stand. In the case of Assara finds, instead of solid sides, large cut outs are made for inserting embers (?) or passing of fresh air. The analogy with Galabovo find is too general, while formal analogies direct to EBA in Anatolia and Southern Greece (Лещаков, К. 2003 with ref.). Another formal similarity could be seen in the later times in South-western Bulgaria (Koprivlen site) where "cult-tables" are placed into pits as offerings. They are comparable in size and typological features, and bear moreover the same shallow finger-imprints on the surface below (Вълчева, Д. 2002, 106 – 110, 409, Фиг. 196 – 197). Unfortunately our 'pot-stand' is too fragmentary to allow further interpretation.

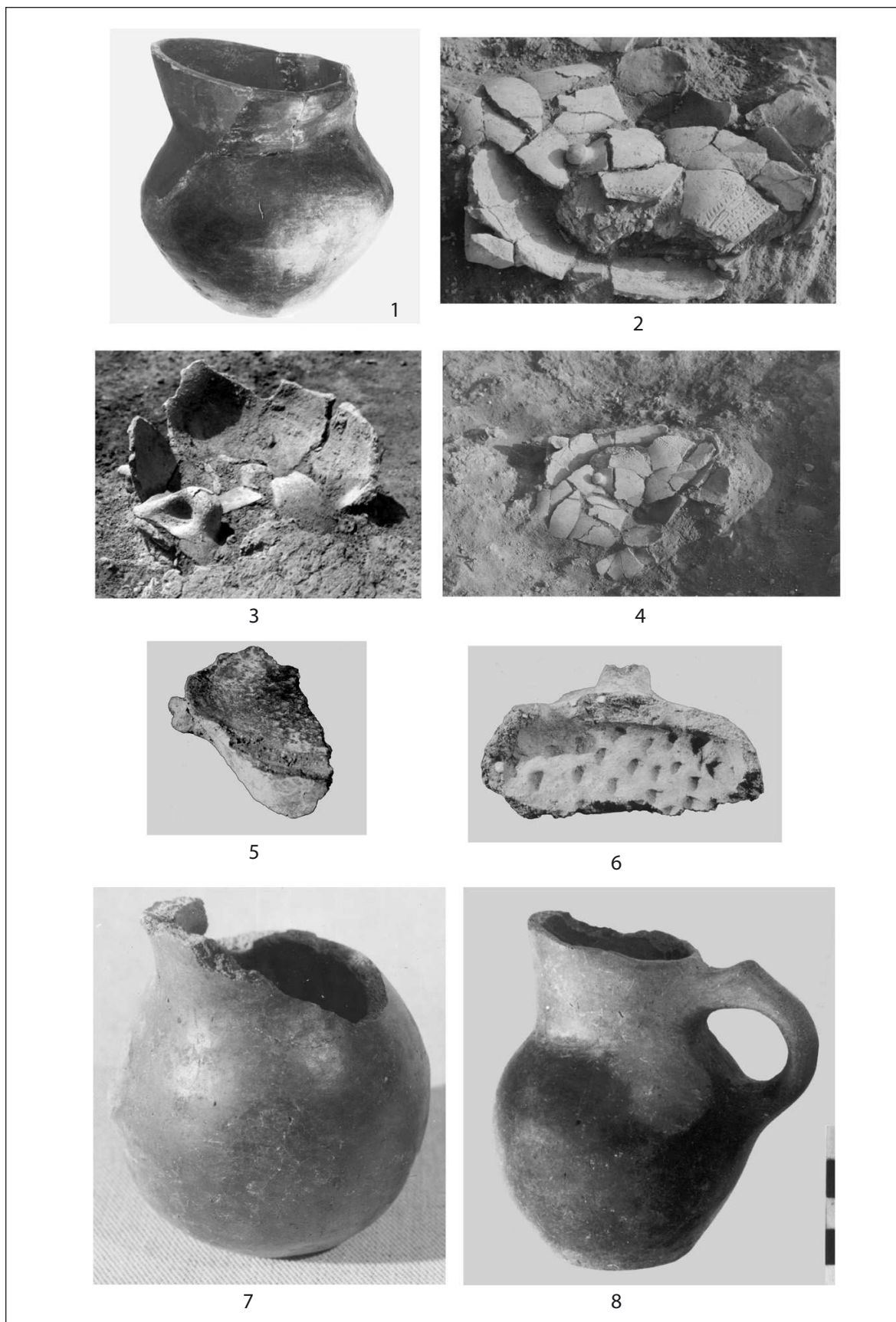
Pottery of Assara (Constantia) 1 - 3

Pottery data from Assara 1a and 4 is scanty and any comment will be improvable. According to the excavators, however, the other three settlements built cultural identity established both by the topographic sequence and the homogeneity of the finds and especially the pottery repertoire (Аладжов, Д. и др. 1981, 267 – 268). This fact allows giving a summarized view of intact vessels and sherds. Most of them are already published, so references are made only in regard to the relative chronology of the site. On the basis of information given in the catalogue, it is possible to ascertain clear technological coherence e.g. towards the pottery from the region of Nova Zagora, where the biggest data base is available (cf. Cat. No 8 – 91 with Лещаков, К. 1999, 64 – 87).

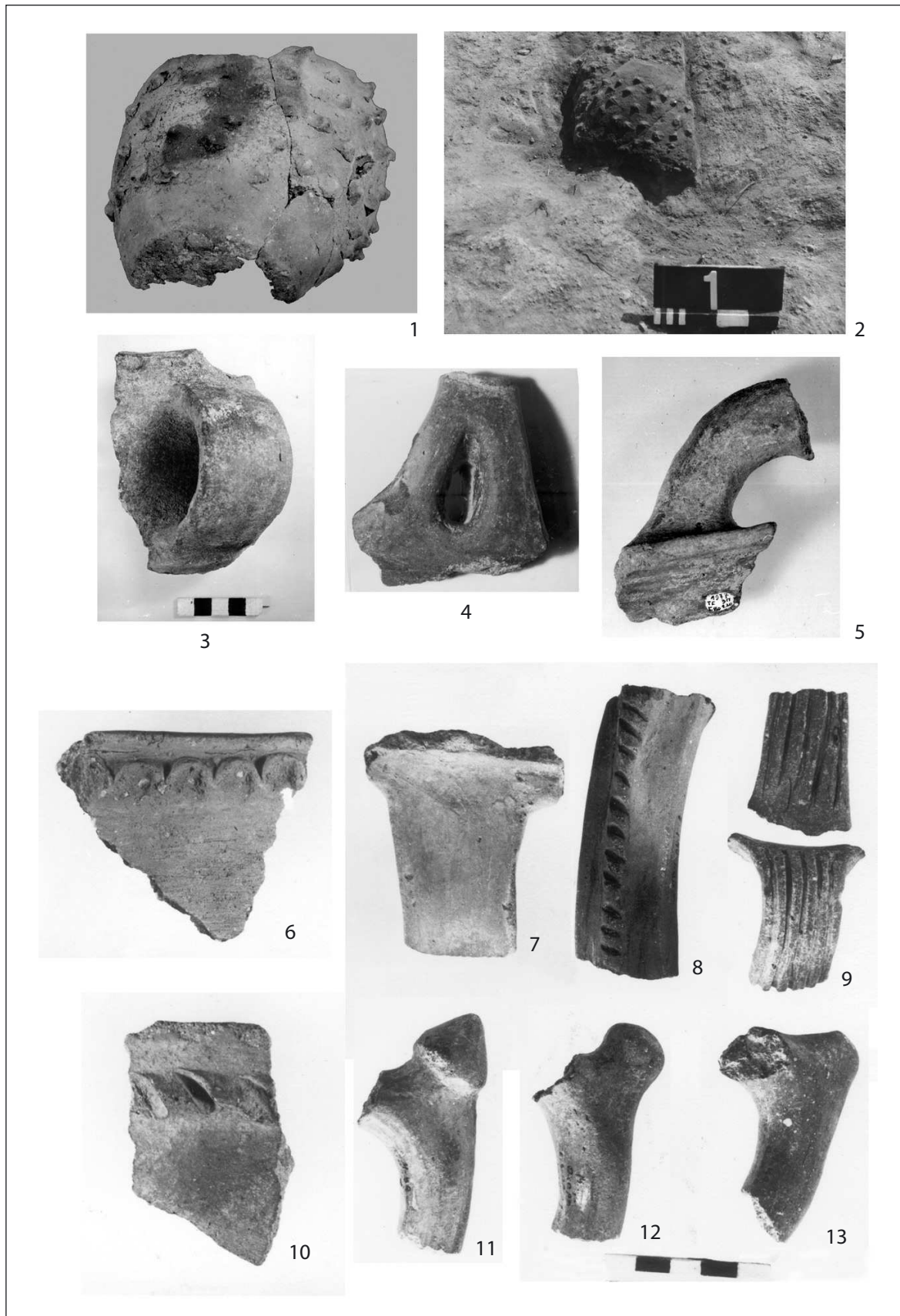
The pottery assemblage includes the following categories, shapes and types of vessels: *bowls* – with incurved or sharply inverted rim; with S- or Z-profile; with carinated profile (Fig. 12). Some bear trumpet or pseudo-trumpet lugs (Fig. 12. 2, 14). A bowl with pouring channel on the rim and small horizontal handle resembling saucier is with indefinite depth (Fig. 11.3). There are also examples with wide loop handles (Fig. 8.5, 11.1-2, 13. 1-2, 14.1). Several fragments of spouted bowls and deep bowls come from building levels 1 and 2 (Fig. 21.7). The small spouted pot is from building level 1 (Fig. 15. 5 – 6). *Jugs* are represented by several intact examples (Fig. 6. 7, 9; 15. 8). Two bear characteristic incised decoration with parallels in Sv. Kirilovo and Dyadovo tells (Fig. 6. 9; 15.8, cf. Лещаков, К. 2000, 19, Обр. 7д, 47, Обр. 21e, 66, Обр. 31к). The group of *cups* includes five entire preserved examples (7.1;



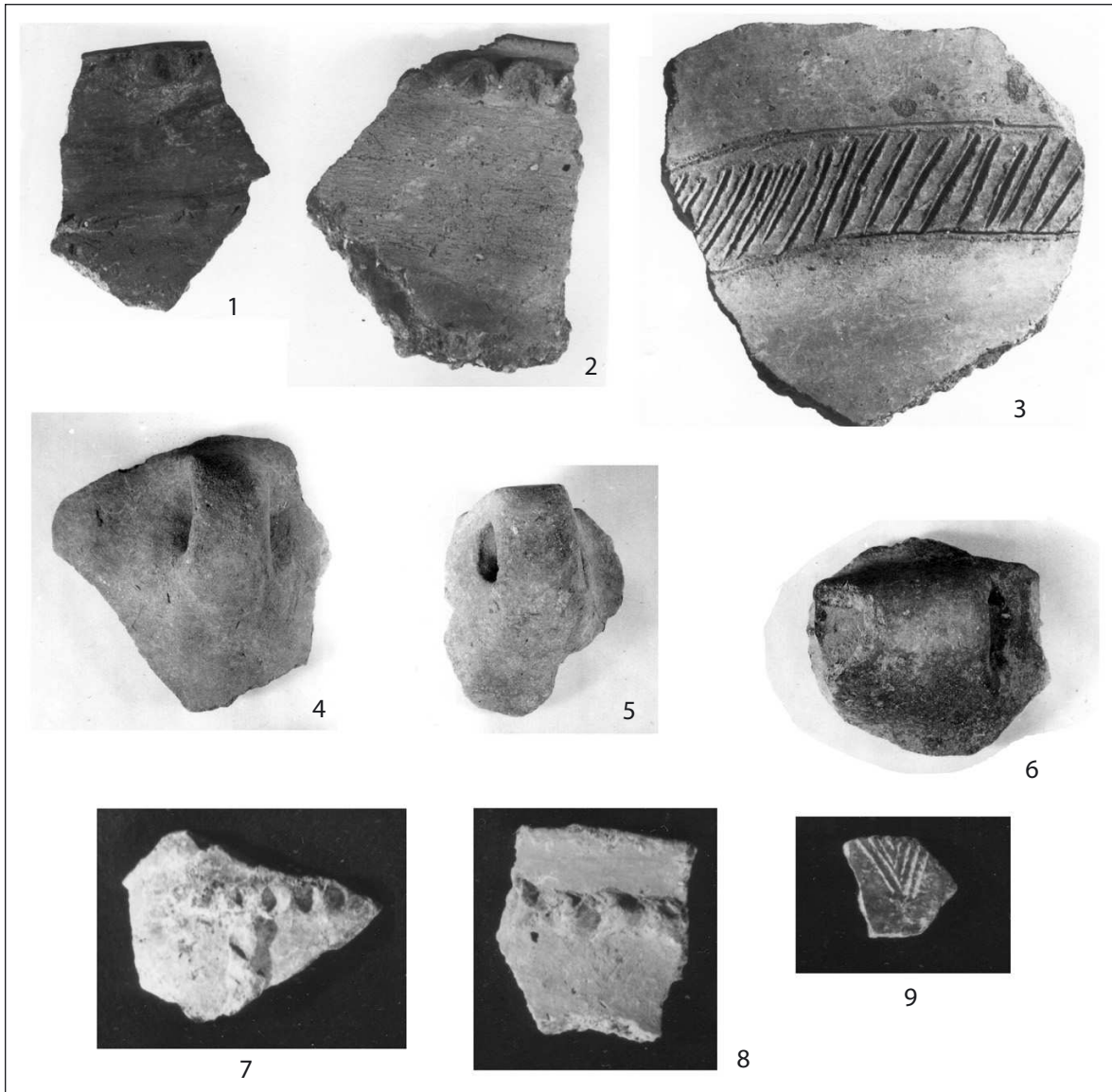
Фиг. 6. Съдове от РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 6. EBA Pottery, Sector TS.



Фиг. 7. Съдове и находки от РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 7. EBA Pottery and small finds, Sector TS.



Фиг. 8. Фрагменти от бронзовата епоха, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 8. BA pottery sherds, Sector TS.



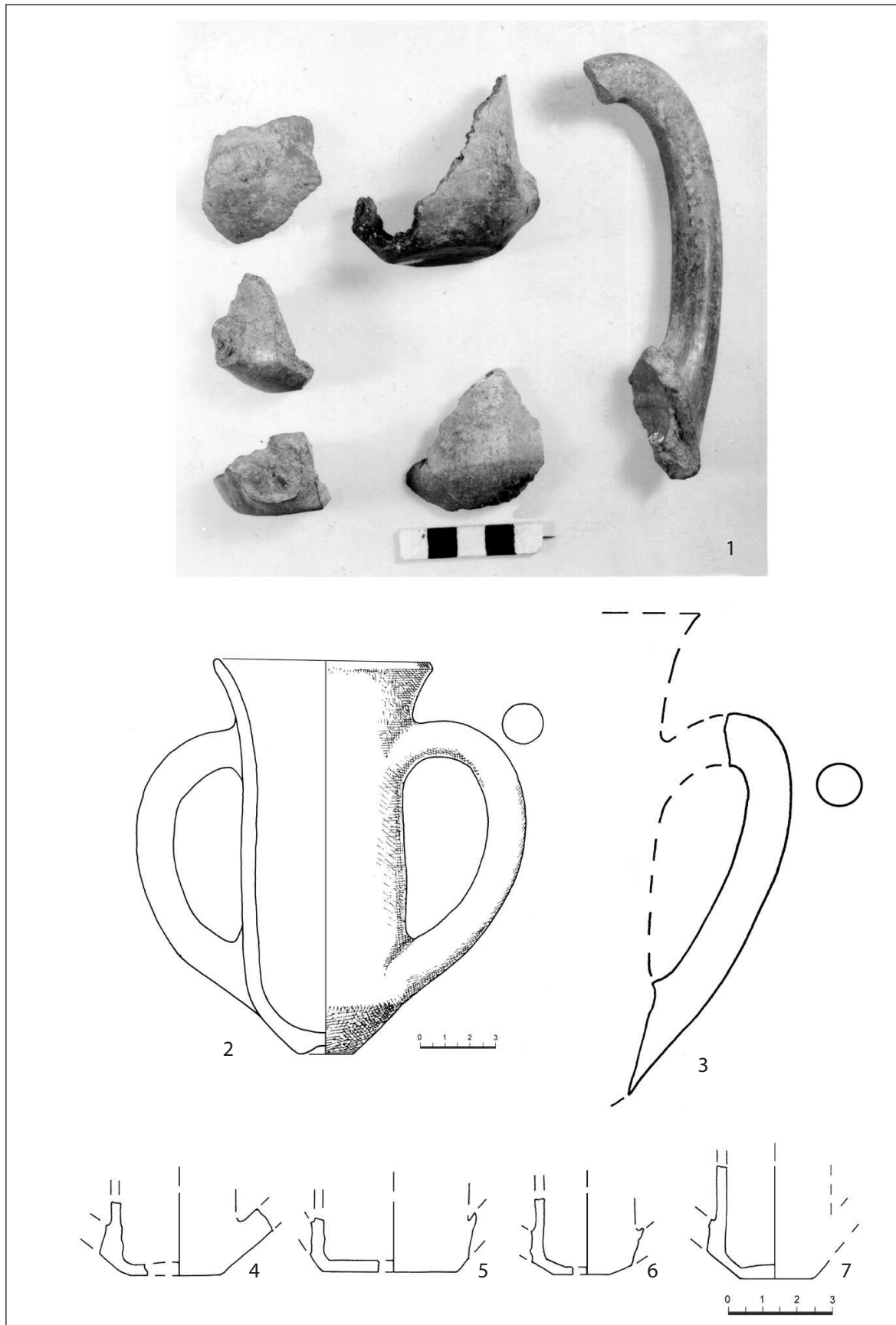
Фиг. 9. Фрагменти от РБЕ, сектор ТС.
Fig. 9. EBA sherds, Sector TS.

8.1, 3–4, 6–7). Four of them are stray finds, while the last one is found in building level 1. *Urn-like pots* are represented by less distinctive forms and are of little help in establishing the relative chronology of the site (Fig. 18; 19. 1–5). Of particular interest is only the idiosyncratic decoration around the handles of one urn-like pots or amphorae (Fig. 19.1, 8), resembling the wing-handles in Anatolian EBA 3 and similar to that of the deep bowl with T-rim and ‘bucranium’, on other hand (Fig. 11.4).

Among the fragmented pottery material some distinctive sherds can be identified, e. g. deep bowl fragments with T-rim and incised or grooved decoration (Fig. 12. 11), *amphorae* fragments with hori-

zontal handles (Fig. 20.2) and fragments of different types of pots (Fig. 14.10; 18.1-6; 20.1). Special attention deserves a large *amphora*, known only by a photo on the terrain, bearing idiosyncratic incised patterns and plastic knobs between the handles (Fig. 7. 2, 4). Unfortunately, it is not commented in the primary publication, and is even not restored, so its stratigraphic context and shape peculiarities remain uncertain⁹. It is noteworthy that the vessel neatly fits the *amphorae* series from Galabovo, assigned to the EBA 3/beginning of the MBA (Leshtakov, K. et al. 2001, 66, Fig. 36b; 2002, 204 – 205, Fig. 7 – 8).

Miniature vessels are represented by a roughly finished example (model?) of a two-handled ves-



Фиг. 10. "Троянски чаши" от Асара, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 10. Assara Depata-cups, Sector TS.

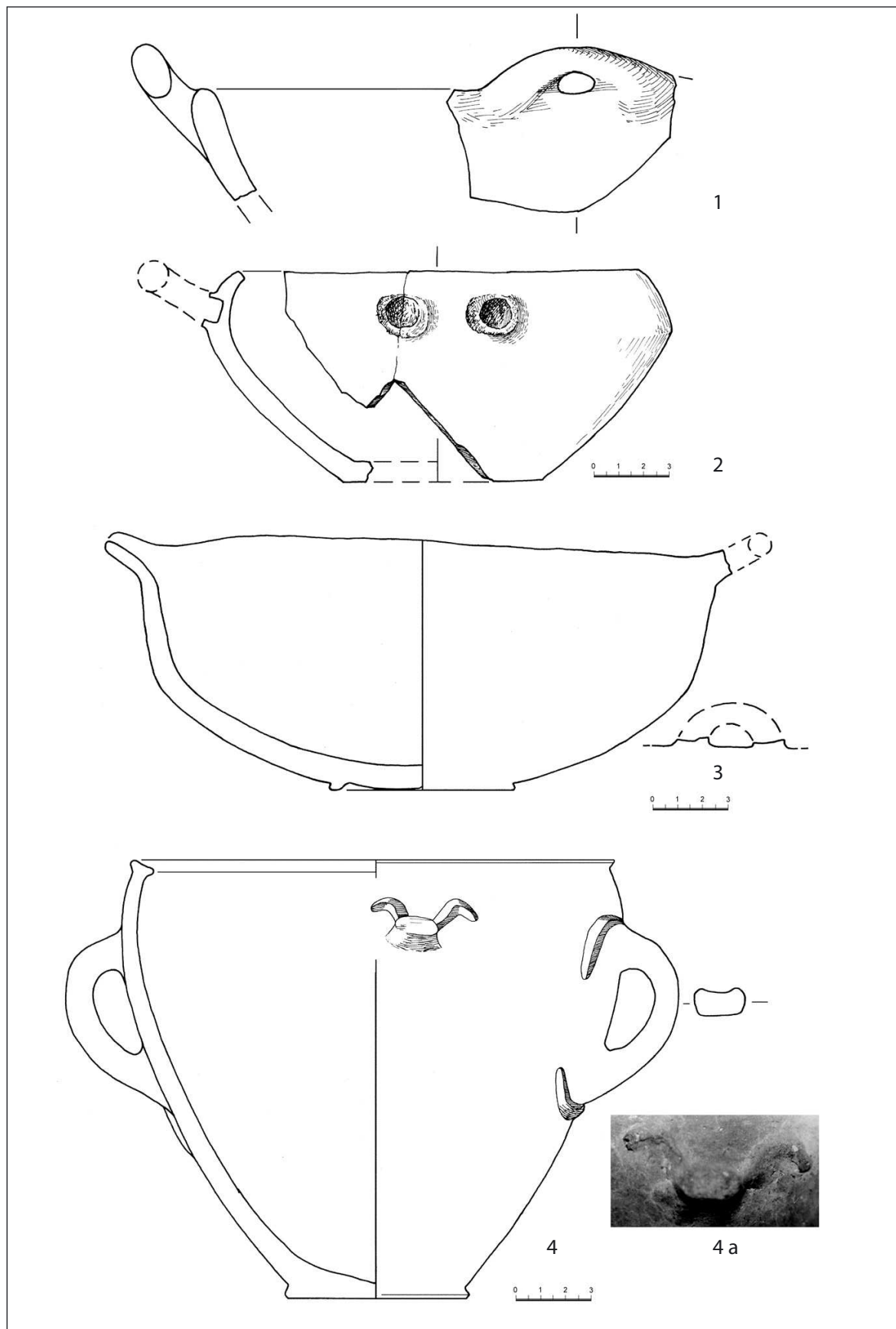
sel with pointed base (Fig. 6.3; 15.7) as well as conical bowl with several small lugs (Fig. 6.1). Among rare ceramic forms, traditionally ascribed to pottery, is one fragmented “funnel” (Fig. 21.8) and a pot covered by plastic knobs (Fig. 8. 1-2). The funnel is recovered in S₇₉, but comes from uncertain stratigraphic context. Nevertheless, this ware type is good chronological indicator, due to the fact that funnels haven not been produced prior to the end of EBA 2 (Леџтаков, К. 1993, 558 – 559).

The types of handles represented in the pottery assemblage of Assara (Constantia) include wide horizontal loop handles, trumpet and pseudo-trumpet handles attached to bowls and pots (Fig. 8.5; 9.6; 11.1–3; 12.9; 13.1–2, 6; 14.1, 6– 9); lug-handles with flat, rounded or oval section represented on miniature vessels, deep bowls and *amphorae*-like vessels and ‘urn’-pots (Fig. 6.1; 19.2); vertical handles with plastic projections or plastic band with shallow impressions or strokes predominant on jugs and cups (Fig. 6.7; 7.8; 8.8, 11–13; 16.2; 20.5, 7, 9; 21. 1–2). Wide strap handles occur on large storage vessels and probably on some of the *amphorae* (Fig. 8.3, 7; 19. 1, 6–8). Rare are ledge handles on small jars and on some big open bowls (Fig. 12.6, 10; 18.1; 19.3). As a curious example of much elaborated type of trumpet-handle can be considered (with some reservations because of the unique nature of the example) the fragmented carinated bowl illustrated of Fig. 12.9.

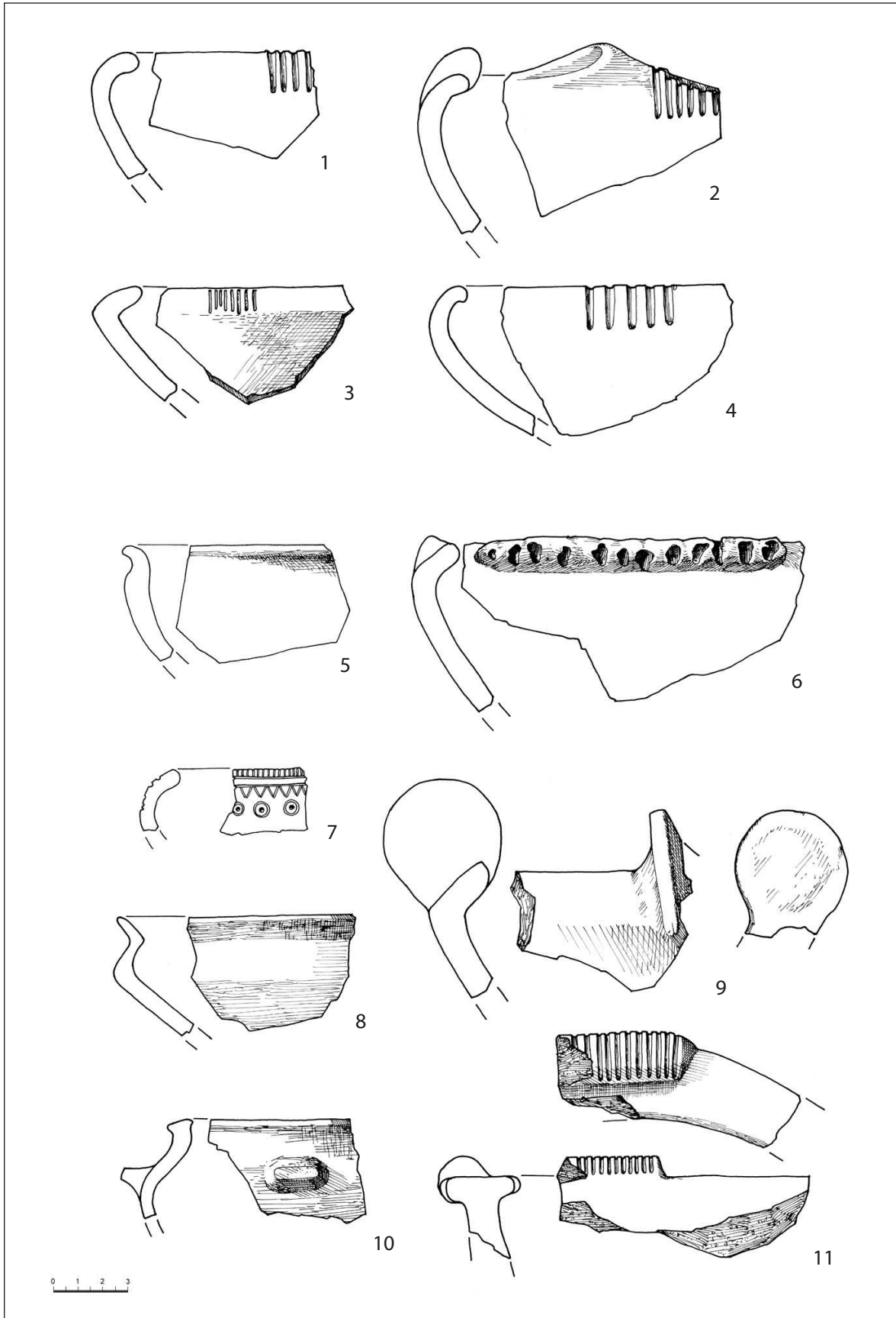
The decoration of the pottery from Assara (Constantia) is by no means copious. Plastic decoration predominates on all shapes and types vessels (Fig. 6.5; 8. 6, 8, 10–13; 9.1 – 2, 7–8; 11.4a; 14.10; 15.2; 16.8; 18–20; 21.1–3), while incised one is rather scanty (Fig. 6.9; 9.3, 9; 12.7; 15.8; 21. 4–6, 9). Besides, different grooves and furrows also occur on vertical handles and bowls (Fig. 8.9; 12. 1–4, 11). Some of them are very specific (Fig. 8.9) and could be compared both to the similar items from the Marmama region and to those found in the Upper Thrace. At first glance white encrustation is lacking, although judging from the only two cases of it existence (Fig. 9.9; Fig. 12.7 and Cat. No 18) this observation might be a result of the state of preservation of the pottery in general.

The parallels of the shapes, types, patterns and pottery details of the Assara (Constantia) repertoire can be found in the Ezero uppermost layers, Madrets 1 (Gudjova mogila), Galabovo 5–4

and Nova Zagora 7–5, Dyadovo, etc. embracing T-rimmed bowls, incurved rim bowls, Z-profiled bowls, carinated bowls, main shapes of jugs and cups, amphorae, “funnels”, vertical handles on jugs and cups with knob-projections, loop-handles on bowls, incised decoration and grooves especially on bowls with projections over the incurved rim, etc. (Георгиев, Г. Ил. и др. 1979, 65 – 66, обр. 38 – 39, 352, обр. 170, 385 – 3 87, обр. 187 – 189). All data listened above give solid arguments for determination of the position of Assara 1 – 4 after the end of the Mihalich stage, e.g. EBA 2 and on the all of the reasons it falls in the stage Sveti Kirilovo. Evidently the life there does not overlap the very end of the period. With regard to the fact that the uppermost part of BA layer in Assara (Constantia) is destroyed, implications for the end of BA occupation are rather hypothetical. Yet another question is raised by the corded ware. As it was stressed by the excavators, corded decoration is totally missing from the pottery assemblage. This observation was firmly confirmed by the second examination of the collection. Such absence could hardly be explained by the factor of regionalism, bearing in mind the very location of Assara in the kernel of the “Mihalich style” decoration and continuation of the corded decoration in the beginning of the EBA 3, for examples in Nova Zagora, Dyadovo, Ezero and Kazanluk. Much more reasonable is the opinion, according to which the whole pottery repertoire is assignable to the period after the withering away of that style, even more – after the begging of the EBA 3 in sense of the observations on the tells mentioned already. The first part of this view is shared also by the excavators, although their dating of the complex in the very end of EBA and the beginning of MBA is by no means acceptable from the positions of Aegean and Anatolian chronology (Леџтаков, К. 1993, 556 – 558). Having in mind the regionalism of the pottery production and the local specific in the begging of the EBA 3 it should be stressed that although rarely, corded decoration occurs in Nova Zagora and Djadovo, as well as in Kazanluk. On the opposite pole is Ezero, where building level 3 (intermediary to EBA 3) gives the highest rate of cord impressions (Георгиев, Г. Ил. и др. 1979, 318 – 319, 360 – 361). On the other hand, Assara (Constantia) yielded the biggest collection of imports and their local imitations at that time in Upper Thrace (cf. infra). Maybe their presence influenced

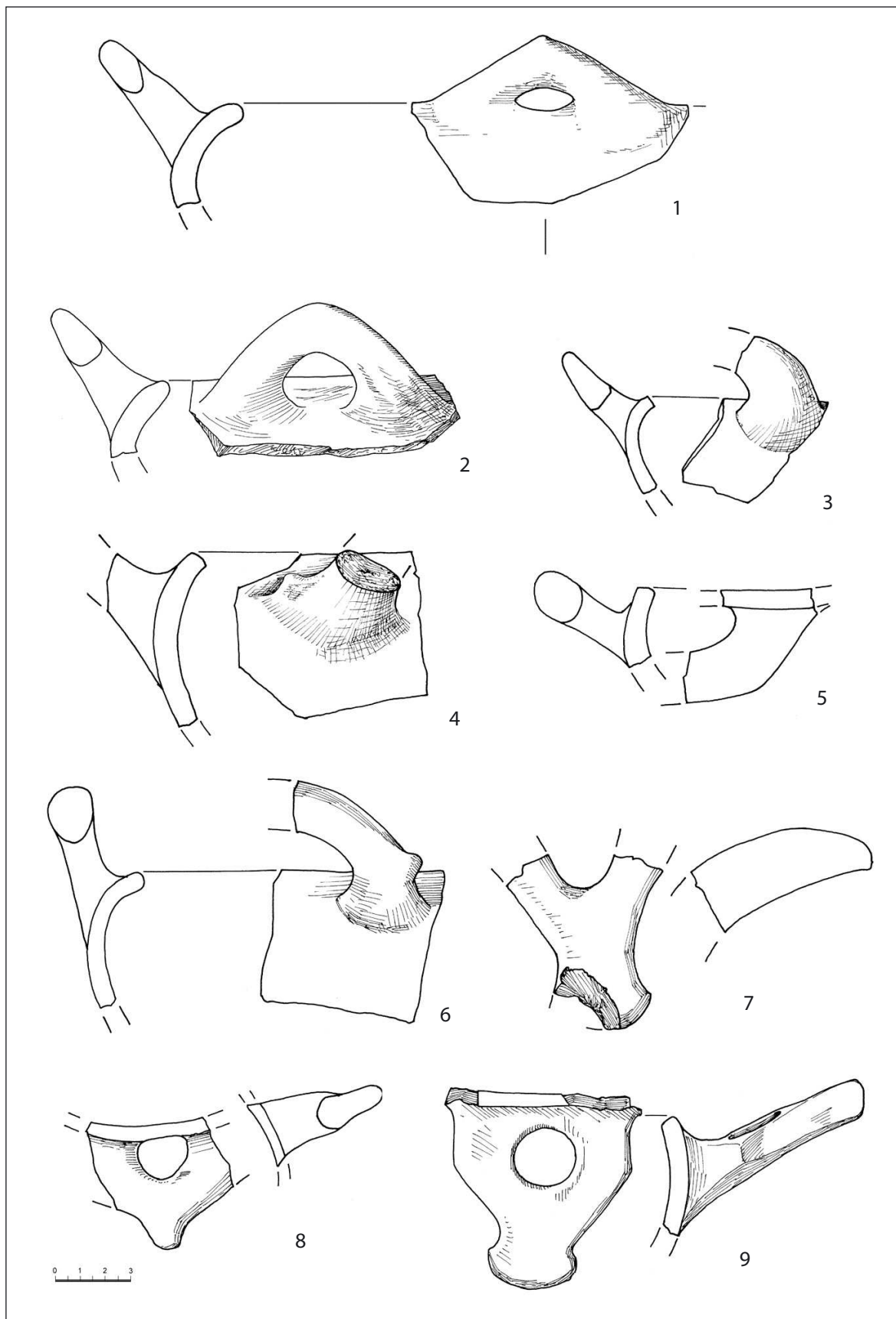


Фиг. 11. Паници и купа, РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 11. EBA bowls and a deep bowl, Sector TS.



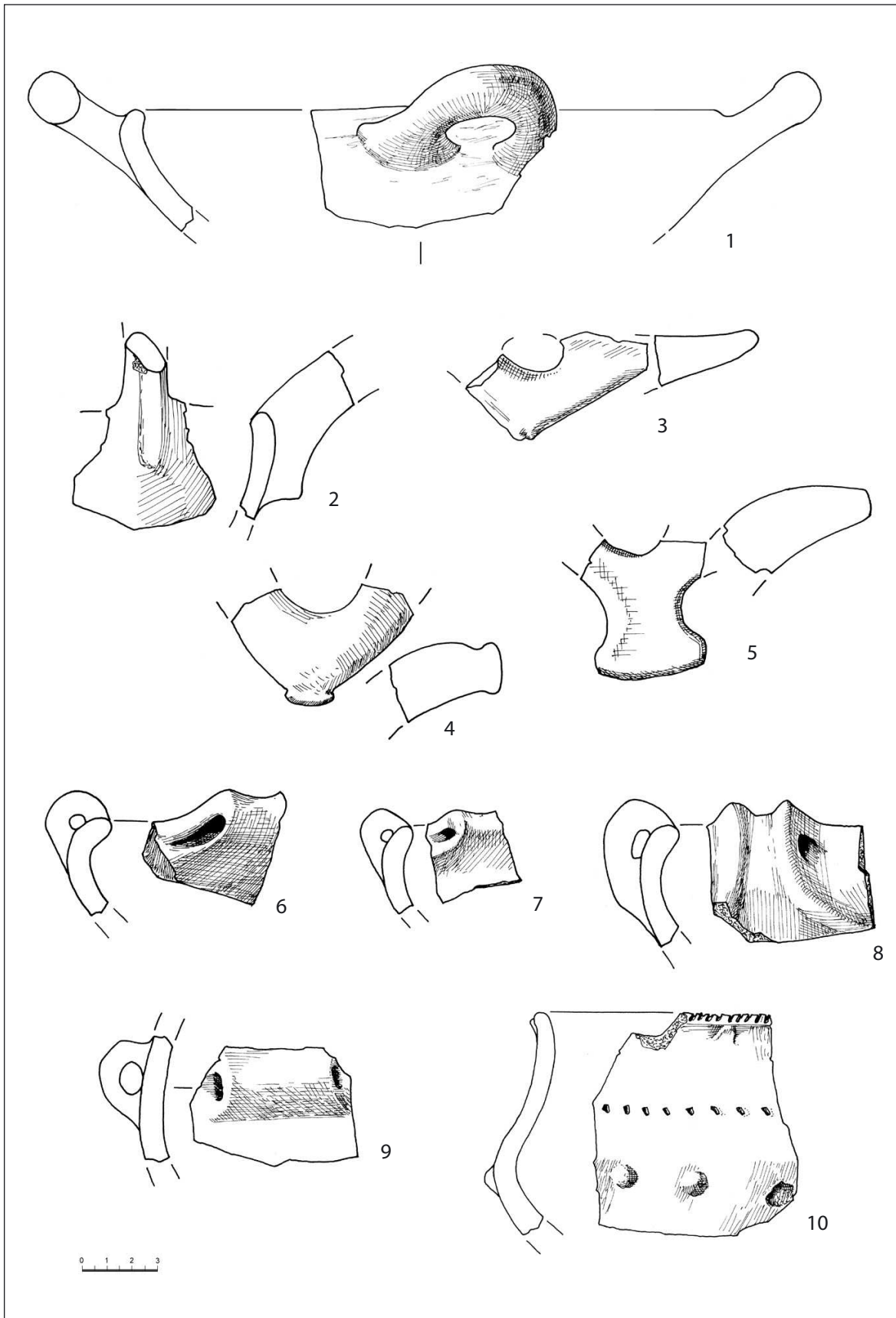
Фиг. 12. Фрагменти от паници, РБЕ, Сектор ТС.

Fig. 12. EBA bowl-sherds, Sector TS.

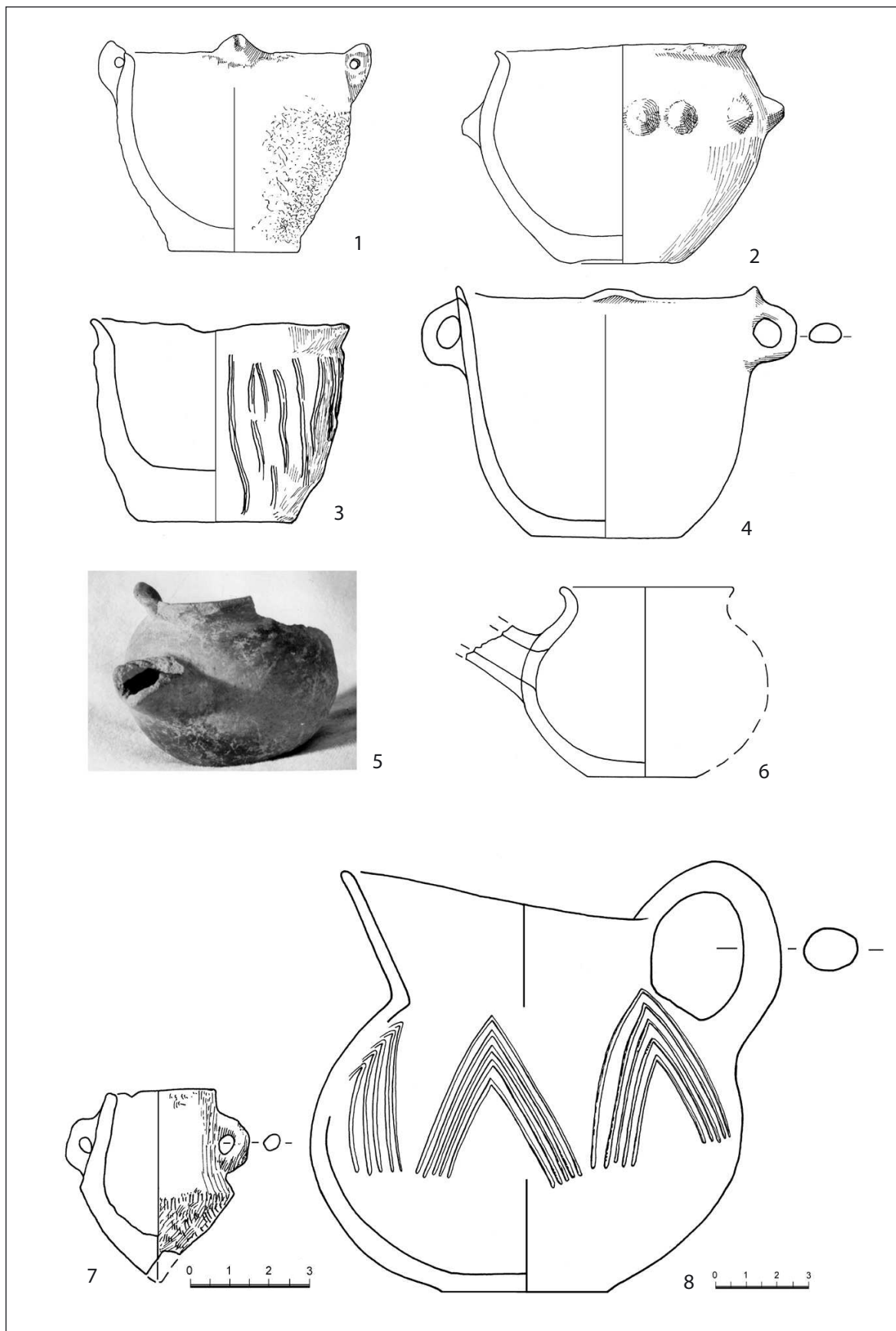


Да се провери мащаба!

Фиг. 13. Фрагменти от паници, РБЕ и КБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 13. EBA and LBA bowl-sherds, Sector TS.



Фиг. 14. Фрагменти от глинени съдове, РБЕ и КБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 14. Pottery sherds from the EBA and LBA, Sector TS.



Фиг. 15. Съдове от РБЕ, Сектор ТС.

Fig. 15. EBA pottery, Sector TS.

the local traditions in pottery making. The elaboration of that idea inevitably leads us to the inference that at least part of the pottery belongs to an introduced ethnic/population group but such an idea demands further support by data.

Imports and rare vessels

Beyond any doubt, the Depata from Assara (Constantia) provoke the great attention. There is information on one intact and six fragmented vessels. Some of them are handmade and as fabric are typical for the fine local EBA pottery. The others, however, are wheel-made and several of them are coated by fine red wash (Fig. 10. 3–4; Cat. No. 2–3), so we can consider them as representatives of the “red wash ware”. Therefore even without precise analyses of the clay and the intrusions in the paste the difference in the technical characteristics suggests that some of the *depa amphikypella* from Constantia are true imports; the intact item and the two more sherds are most probably local imitations (Лецаков, К. 2000, 73). The red washed sherds found in the same building level could be considered also as imports (Fig. 20.11; Cat. No 77). Concerning the typology of the finds, it should be mentioned some very important observations. Firstly, all cups are in the frames of the typology established by P. Spanos several decades ago, with a proviso concerning the position of the handles and the rim of the fragmented cups. At the second place, the bases of these are too broad to be compared with the real Troadic production; they are closer to the Aegean types known from Kastri on Syros, for instance (Renfrew, C. 1973, Fig. 11.2₄ after Bossert; Ντούμας, Χρ., Α. Αγγελούπουλου 1997, 549, Εικ. 7). At last, the Assara collection is different from Baa dere depata. It consists of vessels with typological parallels in Troy, Poliochni and Karagactepe (Protesilaos), as it is already pointed out in the literature (Лецаков, К. 2000, 73 – 75). However, only the intact cup from Assara (Fig. 10) is familiar to the Baa dere repertoire. It's most precise parallels originate from North-western Anatolia – in Troy II_d itself (Георгиев, Пл. 1981, 336 and note 11-12), but resembles also the silver cup from Troad kept in the British Museum (Spanos, P. 1972, Type MD/01 with ref.) which raises the question of pottery production after metal prototypes in Upper Thrace, a process well known already in Anatolia and the Aegean (Branigan, K. 1974, 136;

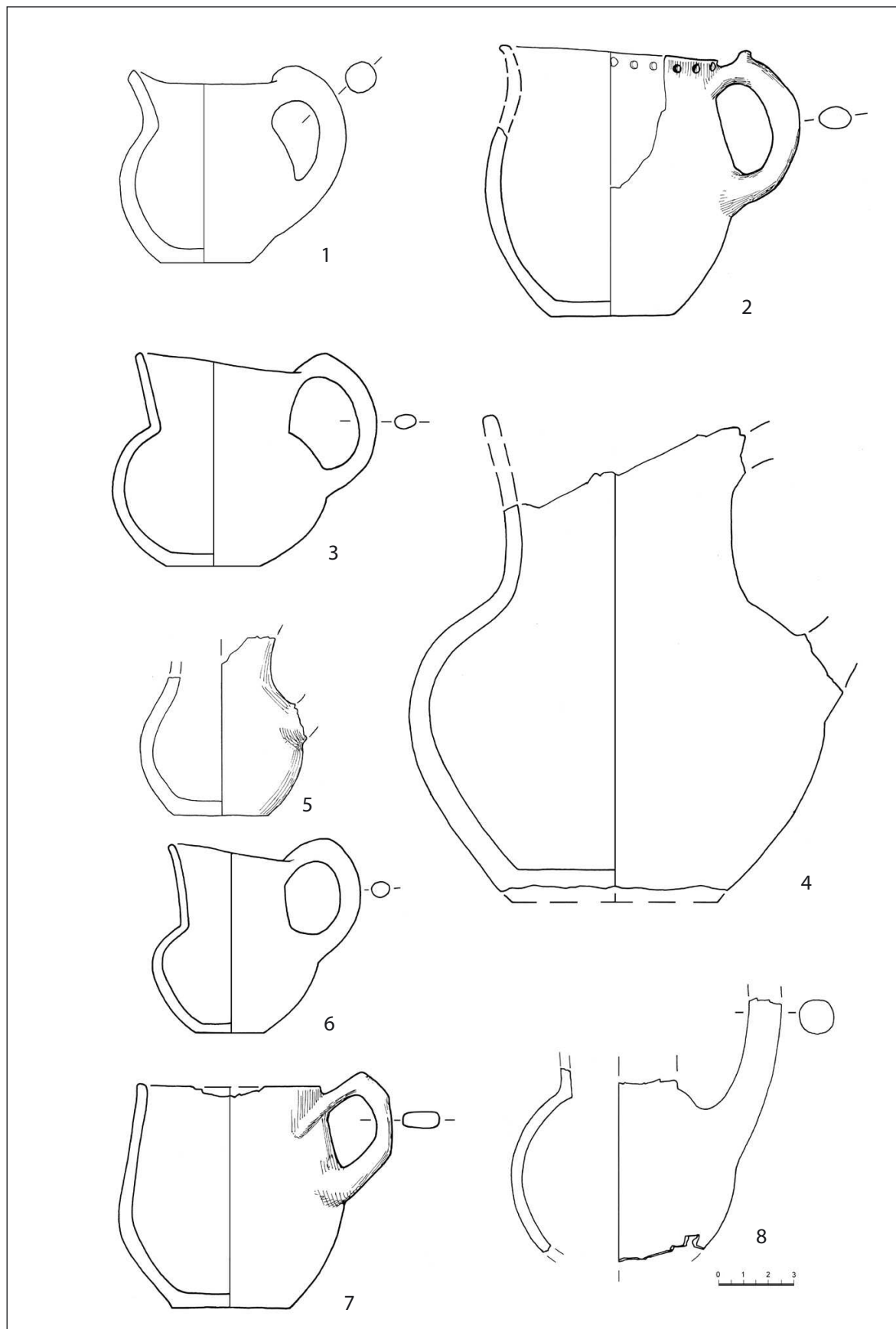
Huot, J.-L. 1982, 539). As it is broadly accepted in the literature, the first depata cups had been innovated in Troy II_c, hence that time would be established as *terminus ante quem* for the Assara (Constantia) cups, and respectively – for the local pottery from the 1/2 building level. The second proviso has own place here – it should be taken in mind the chronological tolerance needed for the diffusion of any new idea or ware nevertheless geographical distance between production and consummative centres. Accordingly, the date of Assara 1 – 2 is not earlier than middle Troy II or the time after the beginning of the Philakopy I stage in the Aegean (Лецаков, К. 2000, 73 – 76). If the parallels proposed here are correct all building levels at Assara (Constantia) fall in the EBA 3 according to Anatolian – Aegean chronology.

Rest of the alien vessels hardly contribute a bit in comparable chronology of the EBA site. Fragmented small jug (Fig. 6.8; 16.8), several fine cup-handles (20. 10–11) as well as several sherds of deep bowls with T-rim should be considered as probable imports without sure provenance (Fig. 12.9, 11; Cat. No 20, 22, 46) and but nevertheless they enlarge the number of the items of potential foreign origin.

The information of true imports, their imitations and probable imports collected in the small studied area of Sector North combined with the specific geographic location of the site move forward the crucial question on the possibly interpretation of Assara (Constantia). The interpretation of the site as a trading factory in close connection with Canlıgecit, Baadere (Michalich) and Galabovo is already published (Leshtakov, K. 1996) and guarding the same position I can only add here the “pot-stands” as argument *pro*. Evidence, favouring such an idea, is not unequivocal and explicit: even the presence of true imports may be interpreted in multivariate mode, for instance as a result of accidental activities and not as data of well established trade network. However, I do not believe that all arguments go only in this direction and do not exaggerate the proposed network as a (only?) commercial one.

Small finds.

Among the abundant small finds, special attention deserves those providing information on metallurgy and metalworking. Of great importance is one fragment of ‘Vesselinovo type’ shaft-hole axe,



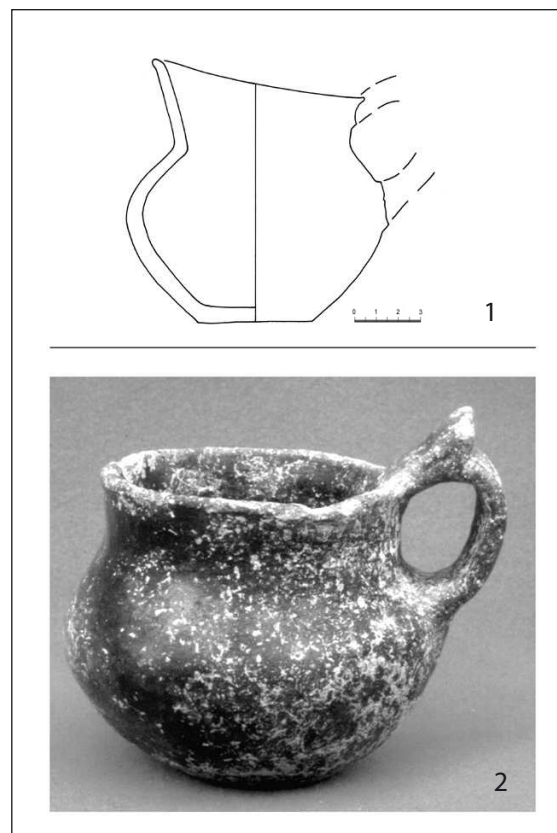
Фиг. 16. Кани и чаши, РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 16. EBA jugs and cups, Sector TS.

identified as copper one but no doubt – made of bronze (Аладжов и др. 1981, 297, Т. VIII. 3, and Fig. 22, 1–2 in the text). In the primary publication the axe fragment is assigned to building level 2 (▼ 1.70 – 2.00 m) but after the field documentation, it is found in dwelling context, S₇₉, at a different depth (▼ 1.40 – 1.50 m). Most probably, contradiction derives from the fact that the depth pointed in the filed notebook is gauged from the present surface and not from BM. It is worth to mention that in close proximately lots of silex chips are dispersed around. Very important is the observation that the axe is coming from the same settlement and stratigraphic context as the imported depata-cups (cf. infra). This correlation is of great significance for establishing the relative chronology of the site and of this type of metal products in particular. There are only a few axes of “Vesselinovo” type deriving from well-stratified contexts¹⁰, so every new find adds valuable information about their development and distribution.

A bronze (?) pin found at the site should have a comparatively earlier date because of its stratigraphic position – at the very base of EBA layer. It is found during the 1967 field-season (Fig. 22.3). This type of pins with simply modelled head is wide-spread all over the Aegean and Anatolian region during EBA¹¹ so it is of little help as a precise chronological indicator.

A casting mould for spear-heads is known from Assara (Constantia), unfortunately, only as a photo (Fig. 22.4)¹². The item must be attributed to the LBA on the basis of parallels from Upper Thrace and Sakar mountains (Койчев, Н. 1950; Leshtakov, К. 2002, 50, Fig. 26. 1 – 2;). If its provenance is correct, the mould is certain evidence of LBA occupation of the plateau (cf. infra) as well as of local metalworking.

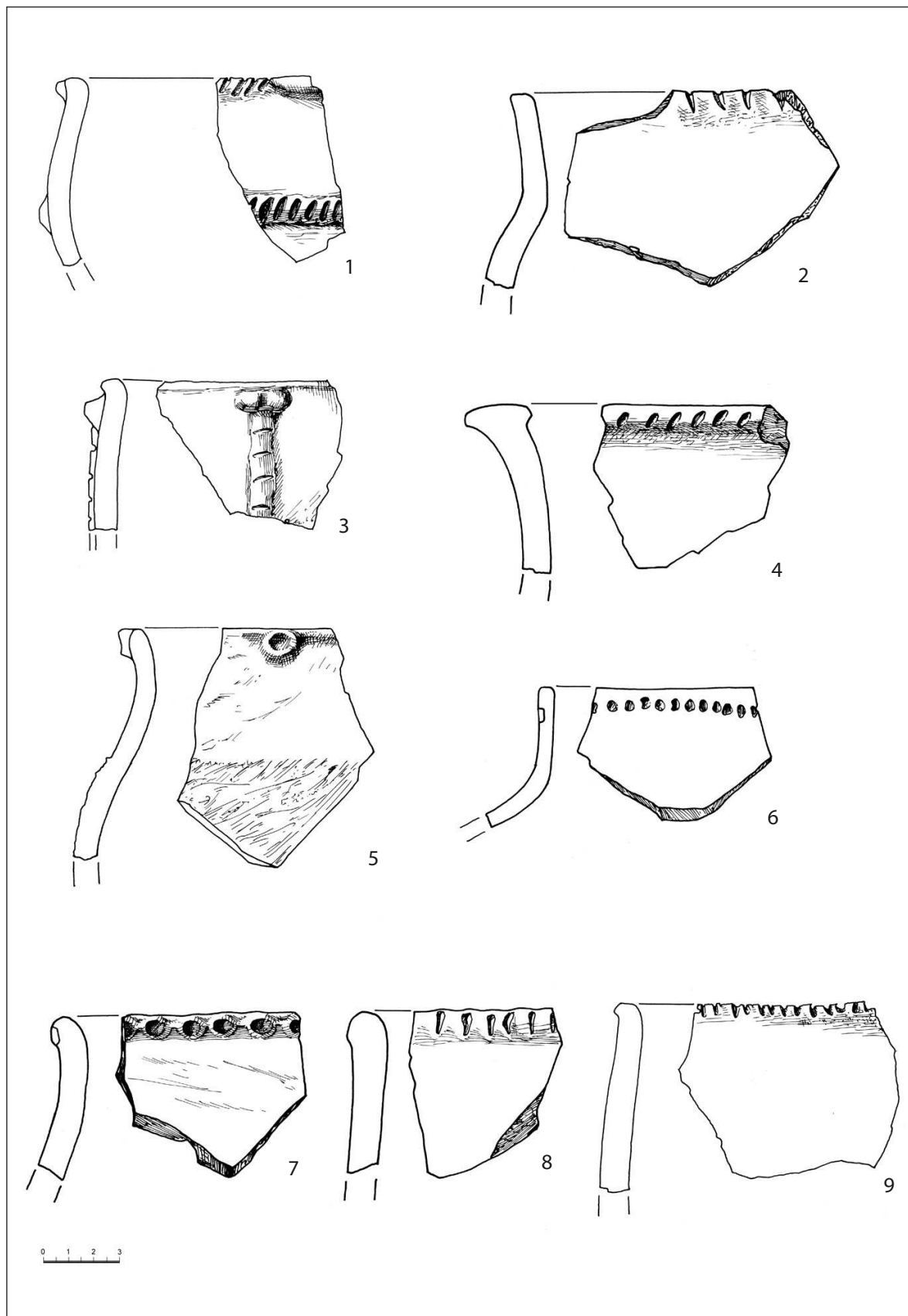
Other types of small finds are familiar to the EBA sites in the Upper Thrace – stone axes (Fig. 22.6; 23.1–3), antler owls (Fig. 25.15), clay loom-weights (Fig. 23. 6–7; 24); kiln-stoppers (Fig. 23.4–5, 5a), clay spindle whorls (Fig. 25.1–3, No. 4 is with later date obviously)¹³. It is worth to mention a fragment of a small stone axe, designated as “ritual model of a battle-axe” (Fig. 22.5). It is found close to the east fortification wall, at some depth above the natural soil level (area E₃₀, ▼ 1.30 m). As a rule, such votives are made out of clay and are in use prior to the beginning of EBA 3; in the Ezero tell we know only



Фиг. 17. Кани от РБЕ и КБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 17. EBA and LBA jugs, Sector TS.

two stone models (Георгиев, Г. Ил. и др. 1979, 409 – 414, Табл. 229). The example from Assara (Constantia) is not only one of the very small number of stone finds, up to my knowledge, but also one of the latest for there are no traces of EBA 2 occupation on the plateau. This conclusion is supported not only by the pottery but by the absence of very indicative small finds, such as ceramic “anchors”, “hooks” and wheel models.

At 26th of July 1977 in area C₃₀ is found very peculiar item, described as ‘loom-weight made of green sand-stone’. The real stone loom-weights are very rare in general and it is questioned whether they are used in the textile production at all. Their interpretation as weight-standard or measurement piece is more probable as we know such examples from Crete and elsewhere in Aegean region from the end of the EBA onwards (Michailidou, A. 2000, 194 – 197). It is nothing to say on the date of this rare artefact – it is found in mixed context containing 27 sherds from the Late Antiquity, 42 from the LIA, 11 from the EIA and finally – 33 from the EBA (Field notebook for 1977). Accordingly, the theme of the measurement system in then BA remaining is still opened.



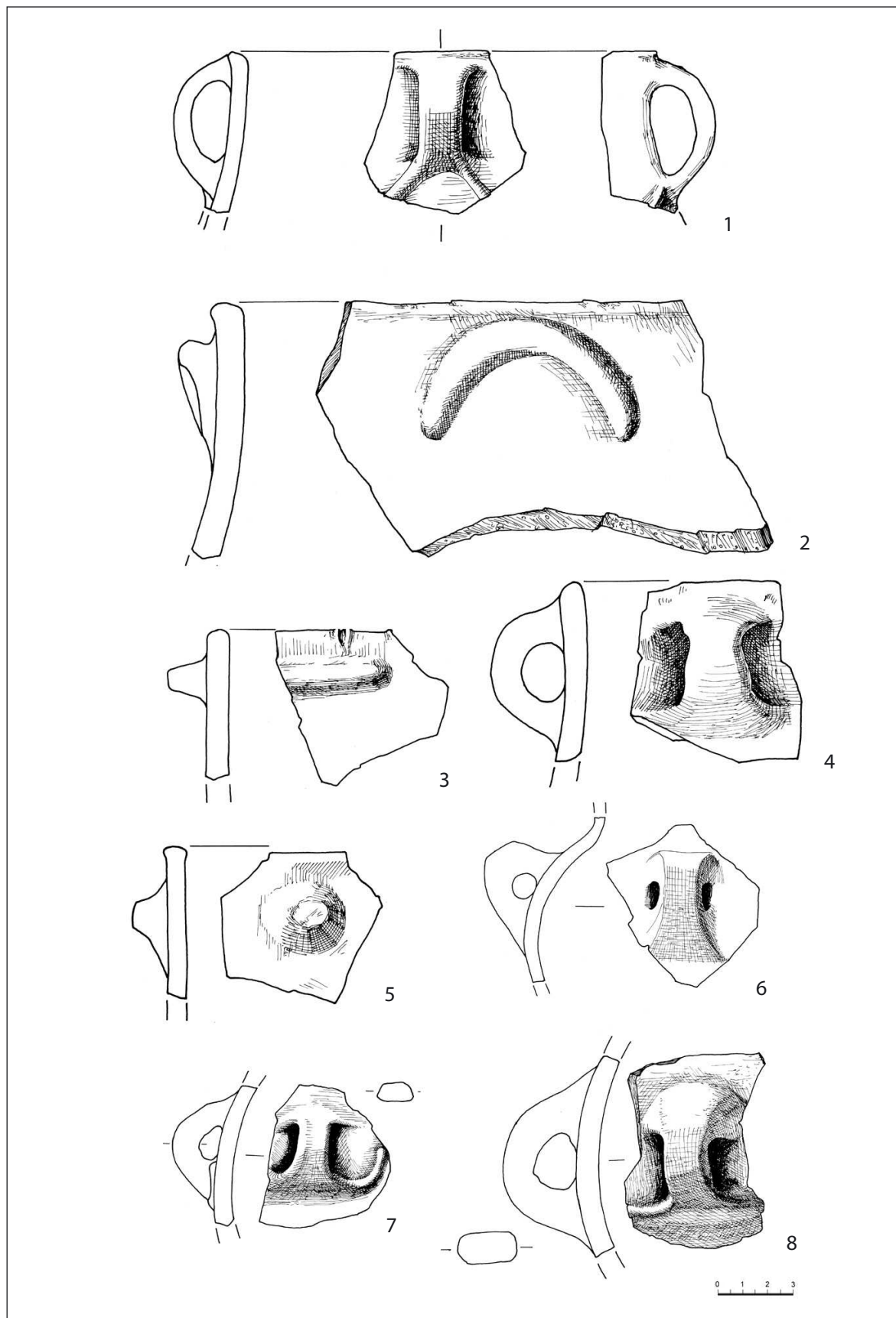
Фиг. 18. Фрагменти от РБЕ – гърнета и “урновидни” гърнета, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 18. EBA pot- and ‘urn-shape’-pot sherds, Sector TS.

Topography and stratigraphy of the EIA layer

At the very beginning of this part of the article I have to mention limited information on the period preceding EIA. Some of the horizontal loop-handles on bowls, collected by excavators as Early Bronze ones are definitely from the type Assenovets (Fig. 13. 3-4, 7-9; 14. 2, 5) and should be dated to the LBA (Кънчев, М. 1982, 263, Рис. 4; Саватинов, С. 1995, 157, обр. 2В). There is a small jug in the primary publication specified also as EBA one (Аладжов, Д. и др. 1981, 296, Табл. VI.1). The picture published here is of better quality and it is excellent visible the specific shaping of the handle-projection, typical for the LBA jugs, cups and *kantaros*-type mugs (Fig. 17.2). The parallels are numerous – from the site ‘Staroto selishte’ near Radnevo (Саватинов, С. 1995, 157, обр. 2Д) as from elsewhere. To this evidence it should be added the unpublished information written in the field notebooks: LBA sherds were collected regularly in the course of excavations mostly from the same area which provided EIA materials. Accordingly, it is quite possible to postulate a short occupation in the last centuries of the second millennium BC. Having in mind the scarcity of the LBA layers in Dyadovo, Ezero and other tells in Upper Thrace it could be supposed that the picture at Assara is similar and no real settlement debris can be localised here at all.

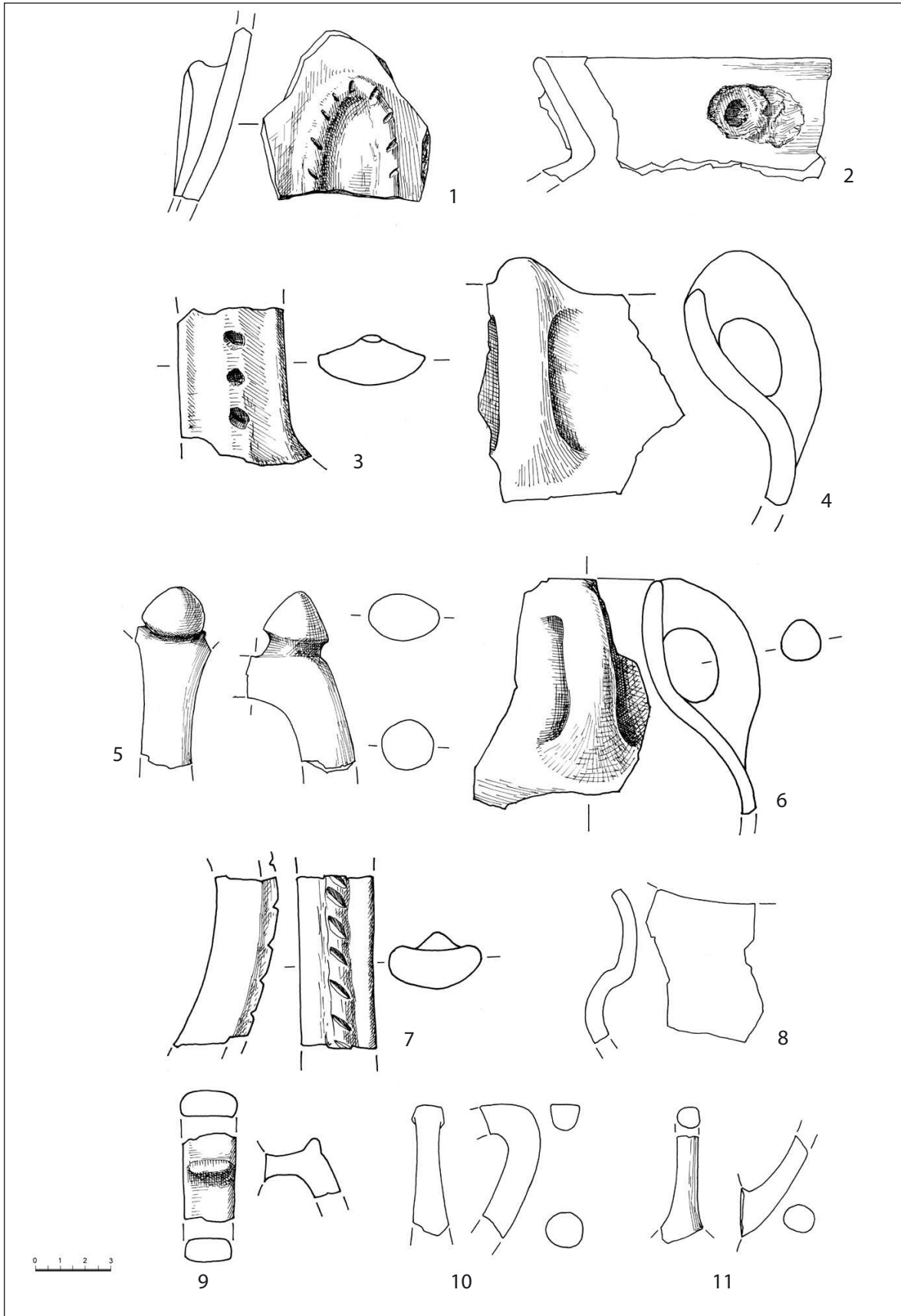
Compact EIA layer is recovered only in Sector South but no structures are preserved, with the exception of pits seriously damaged by later building activities (Fig. 3.1 – 2; 26). Besides, due to the fact that pit filling was similar in colour and structure with that of the surrounding strata, in most of the cases pits were detected just on the level of the natural (yellowish) soil and thus only their bottoms are regularly investigated. Remarkable concentration of EIA sherds is noted in the field reports immediately above the virgin soil reached in the different squares at the approx. depth of 1.40 – 1.50 m BM. It is quite possible that the materials derived from the destroyed upper parts of the pits. Yet another possible suggestion is the existence of light and temporary used structures connected with incidental or seasonal activities. The presence of BA pottery sherds¹⁴ by some means sustains the idea of cultural deposits there. EIA pits are documented also on the southern edge of the plateau behind the fortification wall. Their bottoms are dug down at different depths in the

gritty natural loam and the pits are easily distinguishable by their rich in organics black-greyish filling. The excavators suggest also the hypothetical existence of an EIA graveyard there based on the abundance of large “urn” fragments. As it is now evident, there is more than one possible explanation about the EIA remains, however, contradictory in their nature. Bearing in mind similar cases from tells near Dyadovo and Galabovo, the idea for a pit complex seems most acceptable to me, leaving aside its interpretation. On the other hand, the hypothesis for an EIA necropolis should be denied for the lacking of sustentative evidence. There is only one grave attributed to EIA remains: according to the field report for 1976, Sector South, on August 20, 1976 at a depth of ca. 1.5 m from the surface datum in area K₁₄ “... dug in the yellowish natural soil jar is found with four round-section handles decorated with channeling – Hallstatt or maybe BA. It has the dimensions of a *pithos*, inside the skeleton of a child is placed – Grave No1. The bones are poorly preserved, except the lower limbs. The skeleton is in crouched position. The orientation of the skeleton is almost east – west, the head is facing to the south”. Grave goods are lacking. The dating of the jar in EIA is most credible, according to the quoted description; the suggested EBA dating seems very unlikely¹⁵. If the dating is correct it would be the first EIA *pithos*-grave recovered in the present Bulgarian lands, up to my knowledge. The extraordinary character of that grave is proved by the absence of others, although a sufficiently large area is excavated in that sector; in addition it is necessary to take into consideration the position of the grave – in the biggest concentration of the pits EIA. If the proposed interpretation is acceptable, some important parallels spring up straight away: an urn containing the skeletons of two new-borns (probably twins) is found in the sanctuary of Cherna gora 1, EBA 3 (Leshtakov, K. 2002, 28). Obviously, it is not a regular burial but probably a human sacrifice in special zone. Similar interpretation is supported by human skeletons in the LIA pit-sanctuaries excavated in the region of “Maritsa-Iztok” (Tonkova, M., S. Savatinov, 2001, 100 – 104). Thus the EIA “grave” from Assara (Constantia) could provide the necessary link in the chain of religious continuity that has been already proposed on the basis of other data



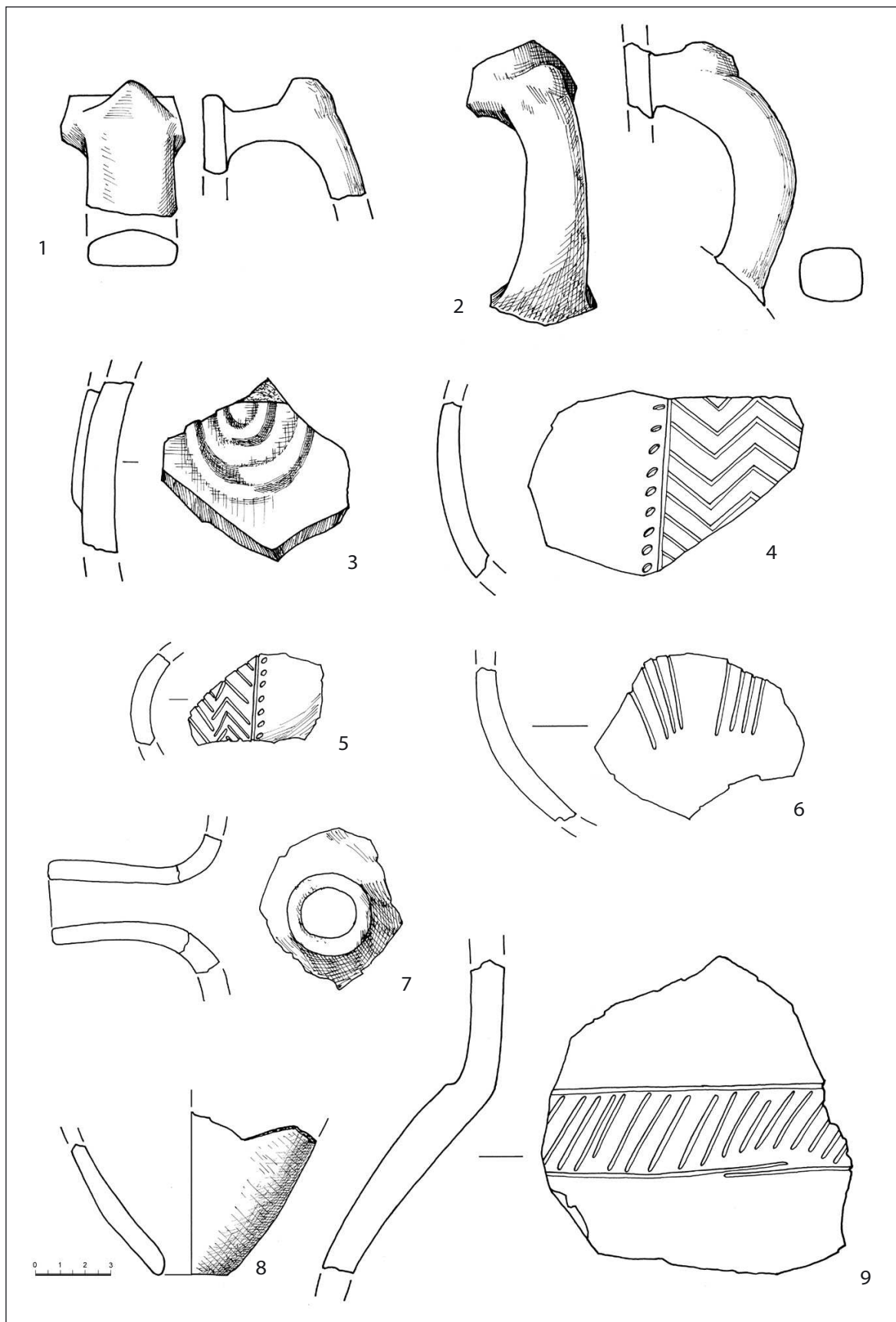
Фиг. 19. Фрагменти от РБЕ – гърнета и амфори, Сектор ТС.

Fig. 19. EBA sherds – pots and amphorae, Sector TS.



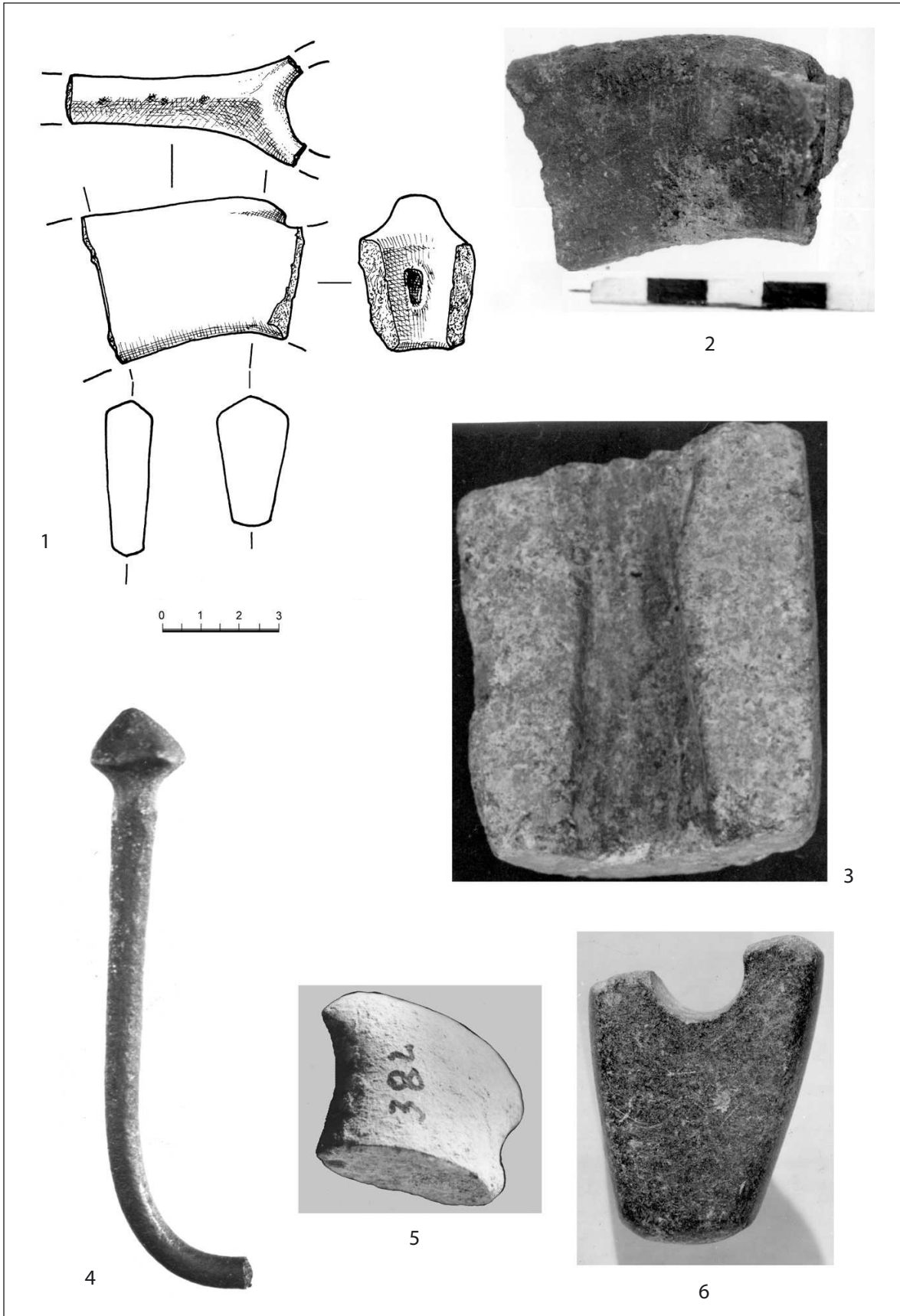
Да се провери мащоба!

Фиг. 20. Фрагменти от РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 20. EBA sherds, Sector TS.

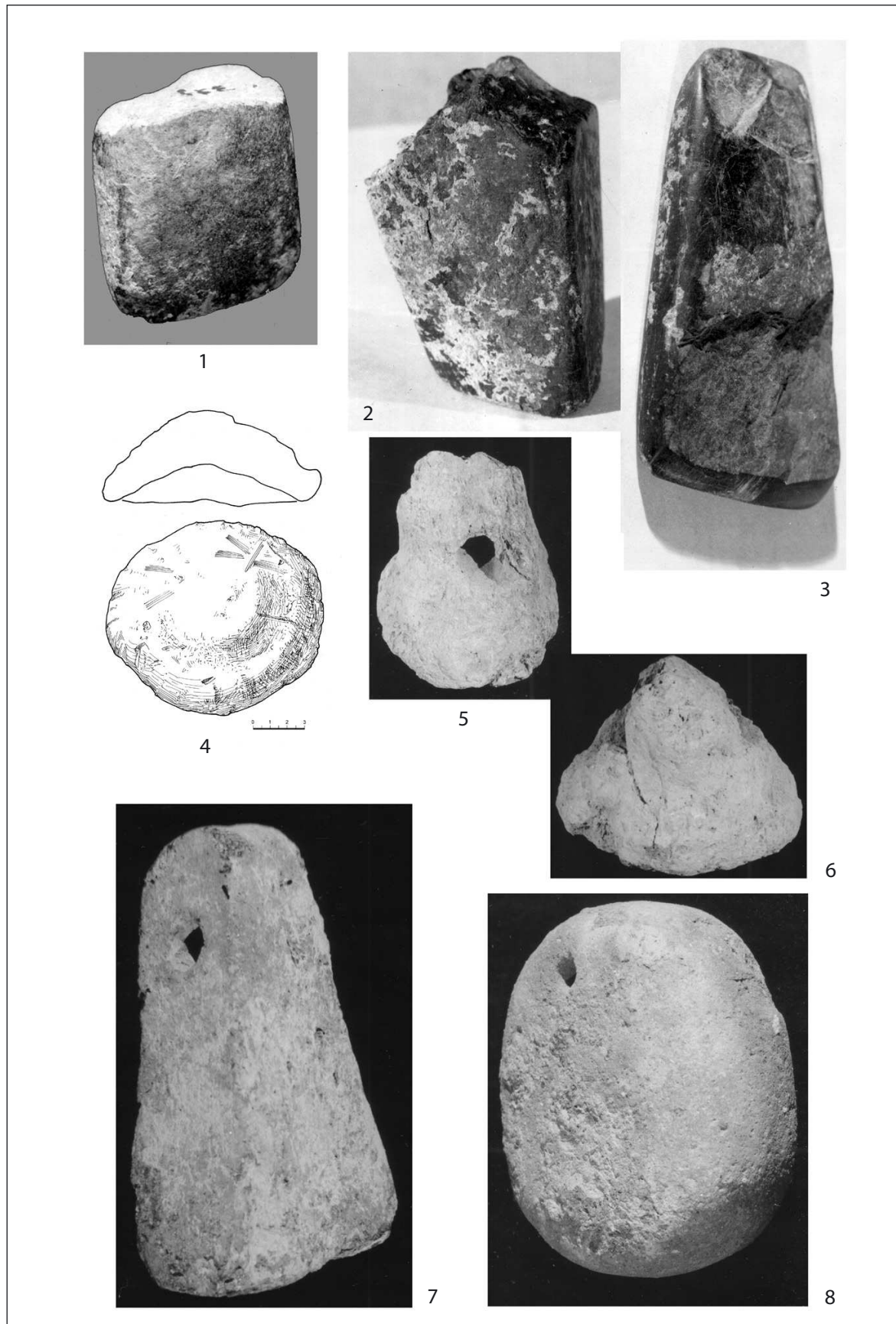


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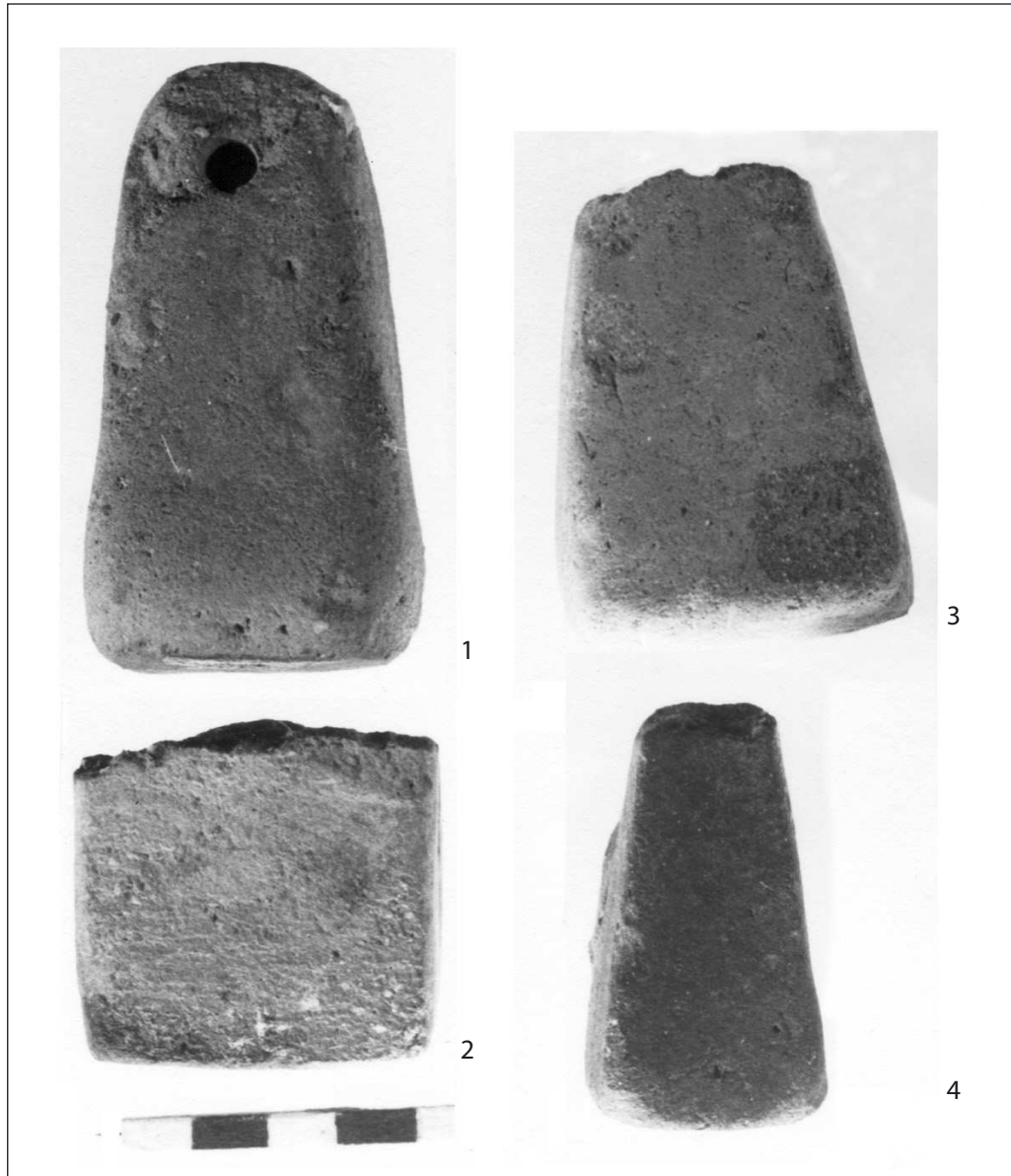
Фиг. 21. Фрагменти от РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 21. EBA sherds, Sector TS.



Фиг. 22. Находки от РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 22. EBA small finds, Sector TS.



Фиг. 23. Находки от РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 23. EBA small finds, Sector TS.



Фиг. 24. Глинени тежести за стан, РБЕ, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 24. EBA loom-weights, Sector TS.

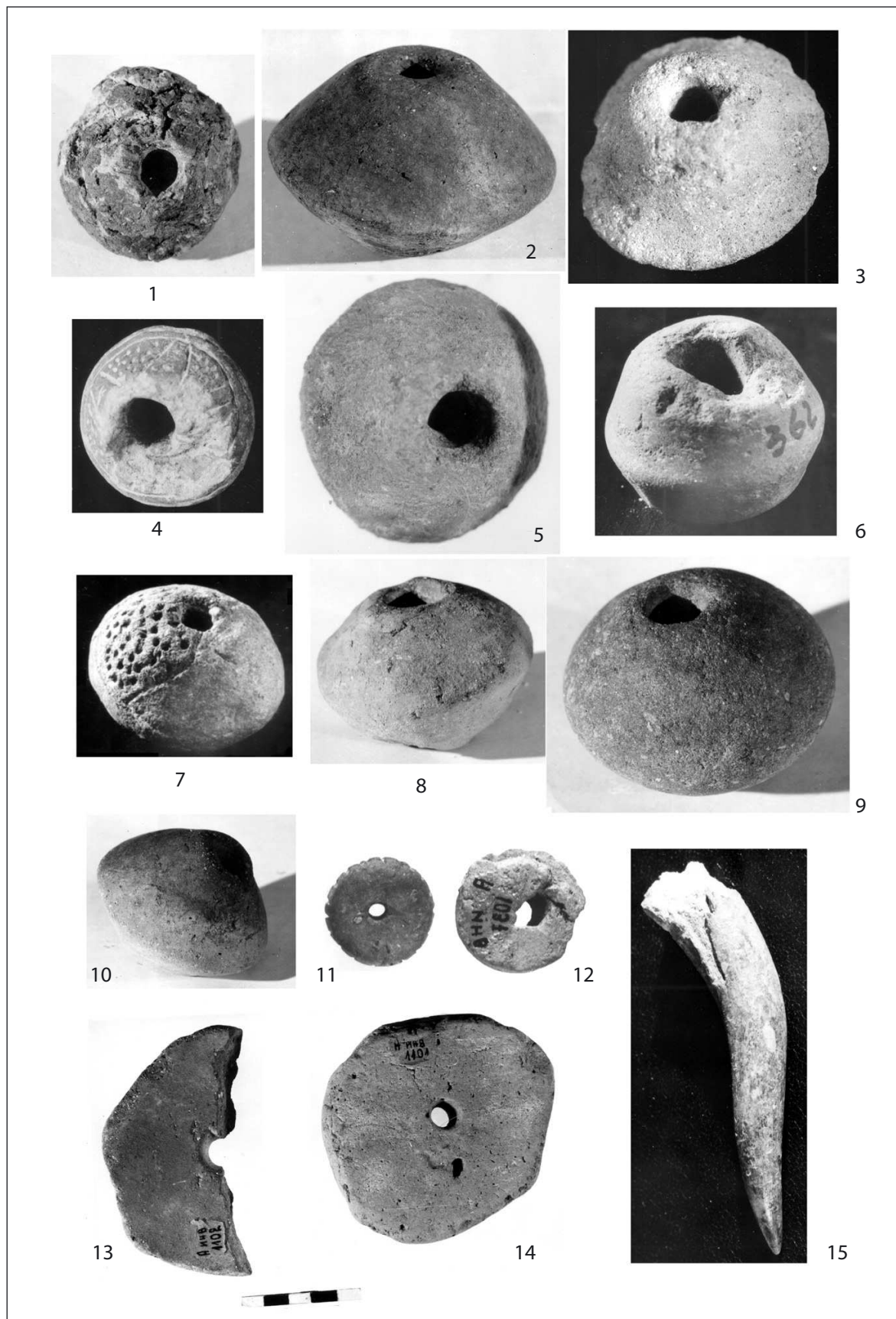
(Leshtakov, K. 2002, 37 – 40). Yet, for the time being, this is still an inquisitive idea rather than a provable inference. Looking for further evidence in that direction, it is necessary to mention another group of important finds.

In the same Sector South – i.e. in the proximate of the unique urn-grave – four anthropomorphic figurines (three complete and one fragmentary) have been found close to one another¹⁶. They belong to the wide-spread and rather abstract type with schematic bodies and “fish-tails” instead of lower limbs (Fig. 27. 1). The description of their discovery left little doubt that they are synchronous and most

probably belong to the complex of one or two pits. No one attacks the ritual interpretation of this type of figurines although they are found both in settlements and sanctuaries.

EIA layer in Sector North and Sector “Thracian Settlement”.

As it is mentioned above, probably one or two building levels from the end of EBA 3 (the beginning of MBA?) are destroyed by later construction works there. The same must be also valid for the LBA remains. The general sequence in Sector North is established already in 1967 and includes



Фиг. 25. Глинени прешлени за вретено, керамични шайби и сечиво от рог на елен, Сектор ТС.
Fig. 25. Ceramic spindle-whorls, 'sheiben' and antler tool, Sector TS.

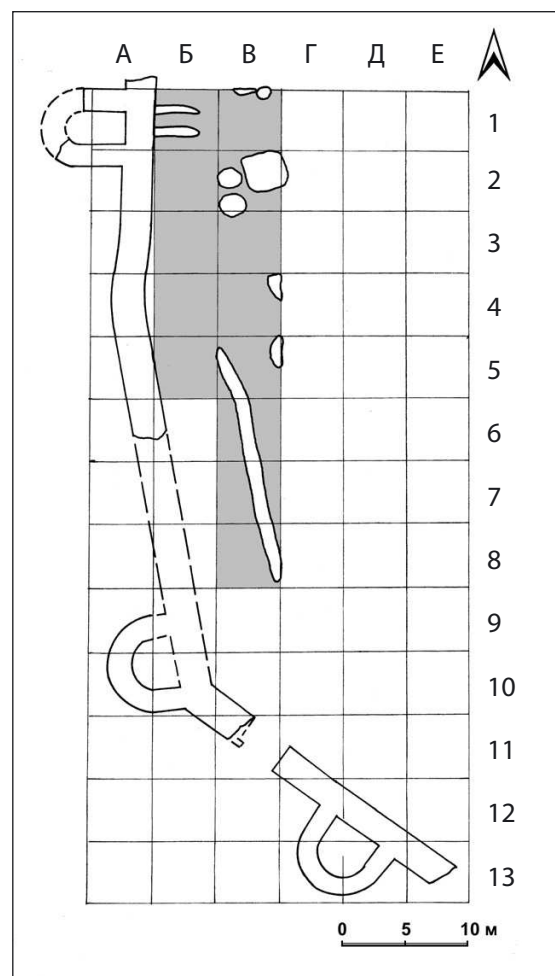
the following strata: ▼ 0 – 30 m – arable land with pottery sherds from anyone period represented on the top-hill; ▼ 0.50 – 0.80 m – materials from the Mediaeval and Late Antiquity periods; ▼ 0.80 – 1.10 m ceramics mainly from LIA and EIA; ▼ 1.10 – 1.60 m – pottery mainly from EIA and LIA pits; down to 1.60 m and below – EBA levels cut by Late Antiquity and LIA pits (Field Notebook for 1967). The character of EIA occupation is little known and the pottery has mixed nature. The LIA remains are better preserved, including sections of stone walls, floor basements and a jar *in situ* (Fig. 5.5). It is worth to underline that no EIA pits has been documented here which is in contrast to the picture in Sector South.

Total absence of pits in the northern part of the plateau and their concentration in the south and south-western area could be interpreted as an argument in favour of the assumption that this picture is a direct reflection of the co-existence of a settlement and a sacred area (pit-sanctuary close to the river and to the springs as well) attached to it. This speculation seems to be quite reasonable if the field data were more complete. It is, however, rather hypothetical, bearing in mind the less precise documentation of the early excavations and the considerable disturbance of the layer caused by extensive later interventions. Looking for further arguments, it is necessary to put the problem against the background of the existing relevant data from neighbouring sites.

Excavations in the micro-region of Assara (Constantia)

Chavdarova cheshma locality

In 1968 the excavations on Assara are ceased by financial reasons. The priority is given to the necessity of accomplishing the exposition of Khaskovo Museum with prehistoric finds. In order to fulfil that objective, soundings are undertaken on a prehistoric site – “the Tell in Chavdarova cheshma locality”. Later it is cleared out that this is not a tell but a complex of several open-air settlements dated from the Early Neolithic up to EBA, located on three successive natural hills rising above the old bed of the Maritsa river (Fig. 31). A big fountain (‘cheshma’) built up in the base of the middle hill (designated as Mound 2 in the original sketch, see Fig. 31. 1–2) gives the name of the locality. Other springs issued from the northern



Фиг. 26. Схема на Сектор Юг.
Fig. 26. Scheme of the Sector South.

hill (designated as Mound 1). The surface collection yielded abundant pottery sherds from the Neolithic (Karanovo I – IV), Early Chalcolithic and EBA. Five soundings were opened, the first two on Mound 1, the rest on Mound 2. The third hill is not explored (Fig. 31.1). Soundings 1 (15 m x 5 m); 2 (3 m x 25 m) 3 and 4 are (identical in size 5 x 10 m) and 5 (3.5 m x 6 m) covers an area of ca. 300 sq. m. The excavations attest the existence of open-air settlements on the two hills dated to Karanovo I – III period, in addition, separate sherds of Karanovo IV date are found. All the evidence for Early Chalcolithic is associated only with pits¹⁷ (Mound 1), and EBA materials are scattered and derive mainly from Sounding 2 on Mound 1 (Fig. 32–33). There is no data of occupation in the LBA or later periods. According to the objective of the present paper, here only the materials assignable to the end of EBA 1 (Ezero 11 – 10) are illustrated



Фиг. 27. Керамика и находки от РЖЕ, Сектор Юг.
 Fig. 27. EIA pottery and figurine, Sector South.

(comp. Fig. 32.1–4; 33. 4–8, with Георгиев, Г. и др. 1979, 245 – 249)¹⁸. Unfortunately the intact bowls is from the surface level, and the wheel-model has now steady data (Fig. 33. 1-2). In 1978 – 1982 the excavations of the Early and Middle Neolithic settlement are resumed, directed by A. Raduncheva¹⁹ (Radunčeva, A. 2002, 225). The cultural sequence embraces three Early Neolithic building levels and at least one from the Middle Neolithic (Karanovo III). The pottery assemblage, still unpublished in details, shows a number of peculiarities, and a more precise synchronization so far is impossible.

EIA in Sector H-II

As it is already mentioned, Sector H-II is situated in the proximity of the modern cemetery of Zlati dol quarter, some 700 m away from the Assara plateau. The locality is called “Vanchovi chuki” after the name of a group of barrows (Fig. 4; 34). The excavations are provoked by the information, given by the locals, that plentiful EIA pottery sherds have been unearthed through ploughing and grave-digging, as well as mediaeval jewellery (Аладжов, Д., Н. Димов. 1993, 26 – 27). Six soundings of north – south orientation various in size have been made east of the cemetery wall. Later, four smaller sound-

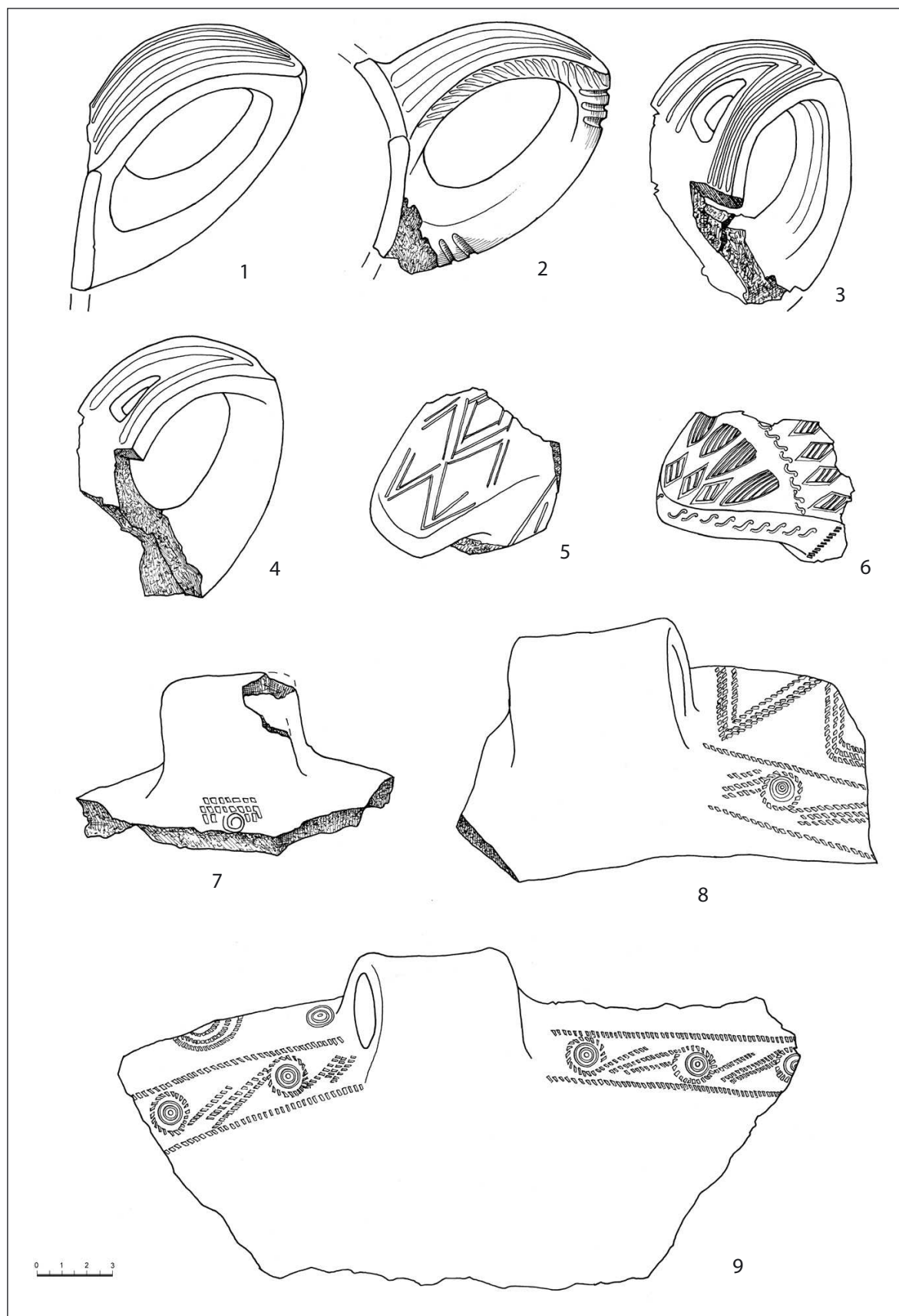
ings have been made. The main task is the localization and investigation of the mediaeval cemetery of Constantia. According to the primary publication, several large deposits of burnt wall pieces bearing pile impressions have been exposed, interpreted as burnt house debris. They are referred to a cultural layer ca. 0.50 m thick, distinguished at a depth between 0.30 – 0.80 m from the surface level (Аладжов, Д. и др. 1981, 285 – 286). However, this information is not confirmed by the field reports. Here, the stratigraphy is elsewhere as following: humus layer up to 0.40 m thick and natural soil under it. Material dated to 3 – 1 millennium BC is recorded either immediately above the virgin soil, or in pits. The presence of structural remains in well-defined cultural layer is hardly conceivable. EIA pottery predominates. In Sounding 5 at a depth of 0.40 m below the surface, the excavators found “burnt human bones, pieces of wall plaster and amassed pottery sherds”. The pottery below the debris is mostly from the BA, although mixed with EIA sherds. One plausible explanation infers to a cremation burial, possibly of EIA date (?!). Fragments of EBA and EIA pottery are encountered also in Sounding 6. Maybe, these are scattered materials from the destroyed upper parts of the EIA pits that have been recorded in several places within the soundings. Most probably, these pits are cut off a thin EBA layer and this is the reason for the heterogeneity of materials in most of them. However, a few wheel-made pottery sherds come from some of the pits, designated as “gray Thracian ware”.

A detailed account on pit data is given below for we find it an important prerequisite for better understanding and interpretation of the site. One of the pits in Sounding 6 is dug down from 0.30 m below the surface and reaches a depth of 0.75 m. Its filling consists of homogeneous black soil, bones and antlers, great quantity of charcoals, pottery sherds and burnt wall plaster. Besides the predominant EIA pottery, there is a fairly good number of BA sherds, and also isolated wheel-made fragments – “gray Thracian ware”. The second pit in the sounding is 1.40 to 1.30 m in diameter and 1.70 m deep. The walls are straight and slightly slanting to the flat bottom. As the rest of the pits, it is discerned just onto virgin soil, at a depth of ca. 0.50 m. The pottery assemblage includes over 200 EIA sherds and only three EBA ones (at a depth of 1.30 – 1.50 m). There is no wheel-made pottery. The pit in Sounding 7 is

recorded at the same depth; orifice diam. 1.40 m; depth 1.70 m (2.20 m from the surface). The filling is identical to that already described. The pottery sherds are comparatively low in number, all from the EIA. Pit 2 in Sounding 8 is recorded at a depth of 0.55 m; orifice diam. 1.60 to 1.70 m; depth 1.25 m. It is cylindrical in section, flat-bottomed. The filling is of loose black soil, full of charcoals, a few animal bones and pottery sherds in average concentration. 86 EIA fragments are encountered, while EBA sherds are only four. Adjacent to it is pit 2a, recorded at a depth of 0.50 m; base diam. 1.60 m; depth 1.05 m towards the surface level. Pit 2a has straight walls and slightly concave bottom. The filling is of black loose soil mixed with burnt wall plaster pieces and animal bones. The pottery assemblage consists of 130 EIA fragments and eight wheel-made fragments of “Gray Thracian ware”. The pit yielded the single small find in the whole complex – a pointed end of a flint knife. According to D. Aladzov, pit 2a is later than pit 2, although both are almost of one and the same date.

According to excavators’ interpretation, the unearthed structures are refuse pits belonging to a settlement with presumed localization within the territory of the modern cemetery. So far, no traces of the settlement are established and no stable structures *in situ* are found to prove the presence of well-defined EIA layer. The context of EBA pottery materials is completely unclear. For that reasons, I am inclined to presume the existence of another EIA pit complex here. As we already stated, it is possible these pits to cut off a thin EBA layer, which explains the presence of relevant pottery in the fillings. In all probability, the upper parts of the pits have been disturbed during the Middle Ages, and their materials – dispersed. We can suppose also the existence of some wooden platforms or other perishable structures of incidental use between the pits, by analogy with many similar sites in Thrace (Tonkova, M., S. Savatinov 2001, 105). It is not possible to comment here the possible ritual connection between the two human skeletons both in the pit-fields – a pithos-grave and a cremation due to the scarcity of information, although such a procedure is very tempting.

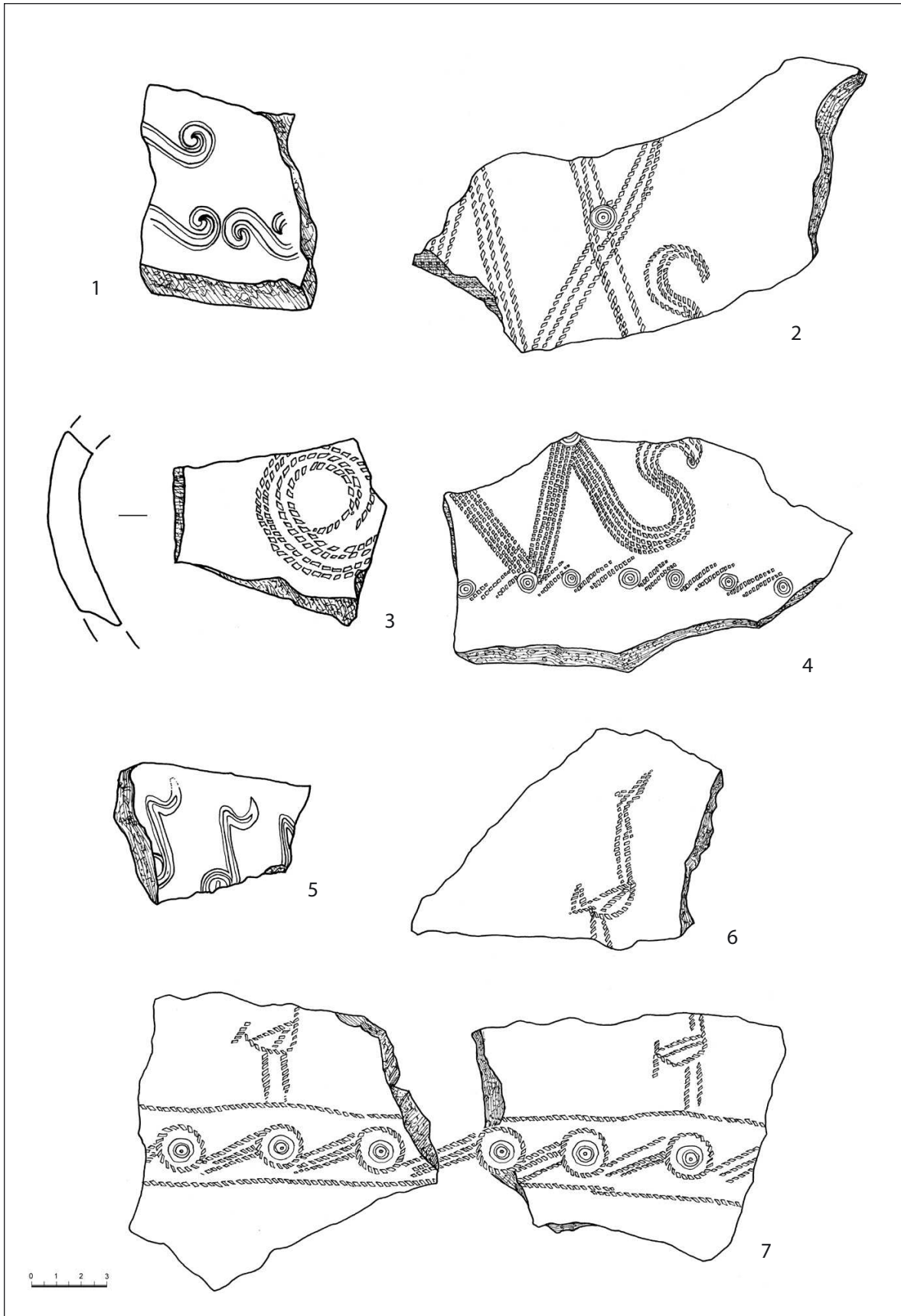
Yet, the presence of LIA wheel-made pottery (so-called grey Thracian ware) in the pit fillings is hardly explicable. However, there is a possibility these sherds to be imports and contemporary



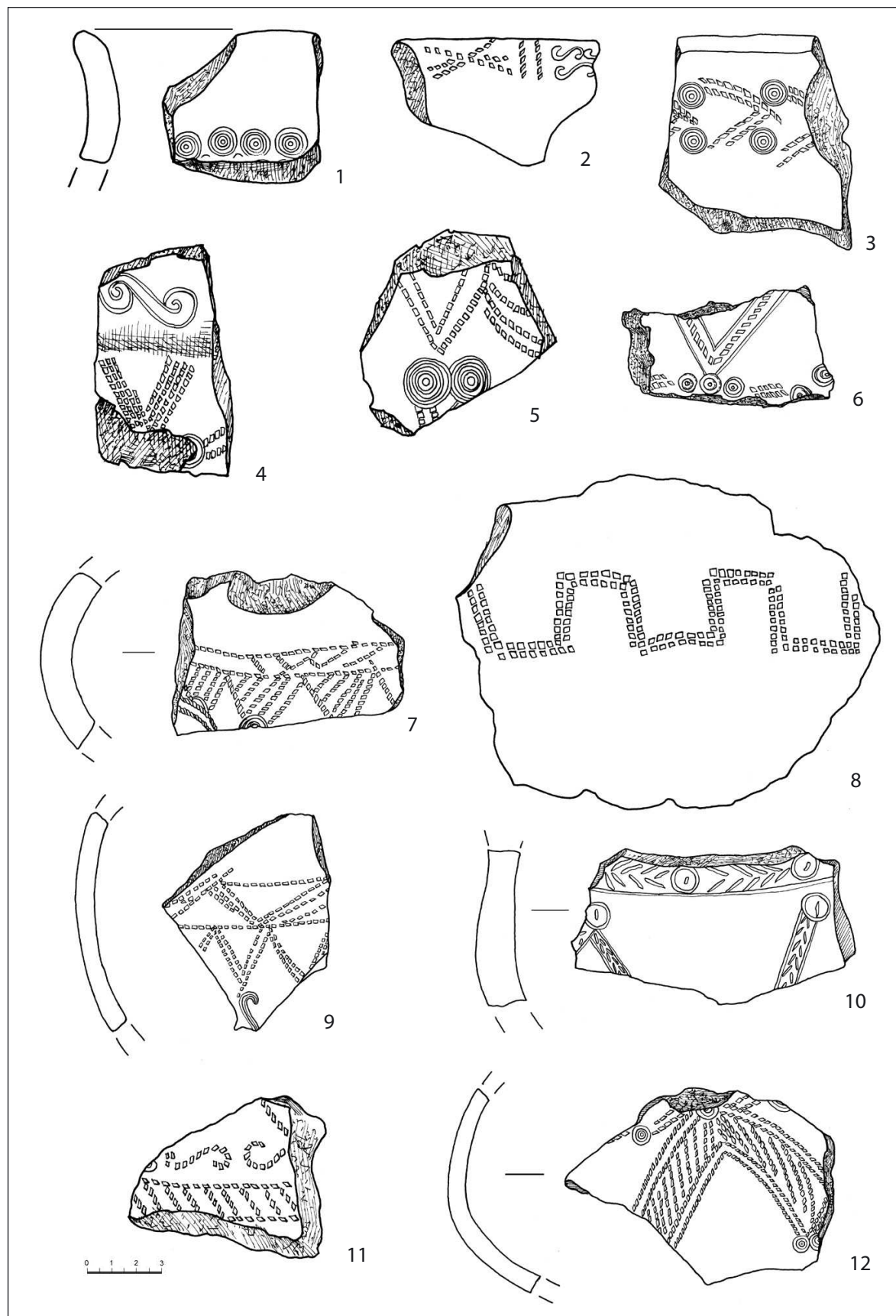
Да се провери мащаба!

Фиг. 28. Керамика от РЖЕ, Асара (Констанция).

Fig. 28. EIA pottery, Assara (Constantia).



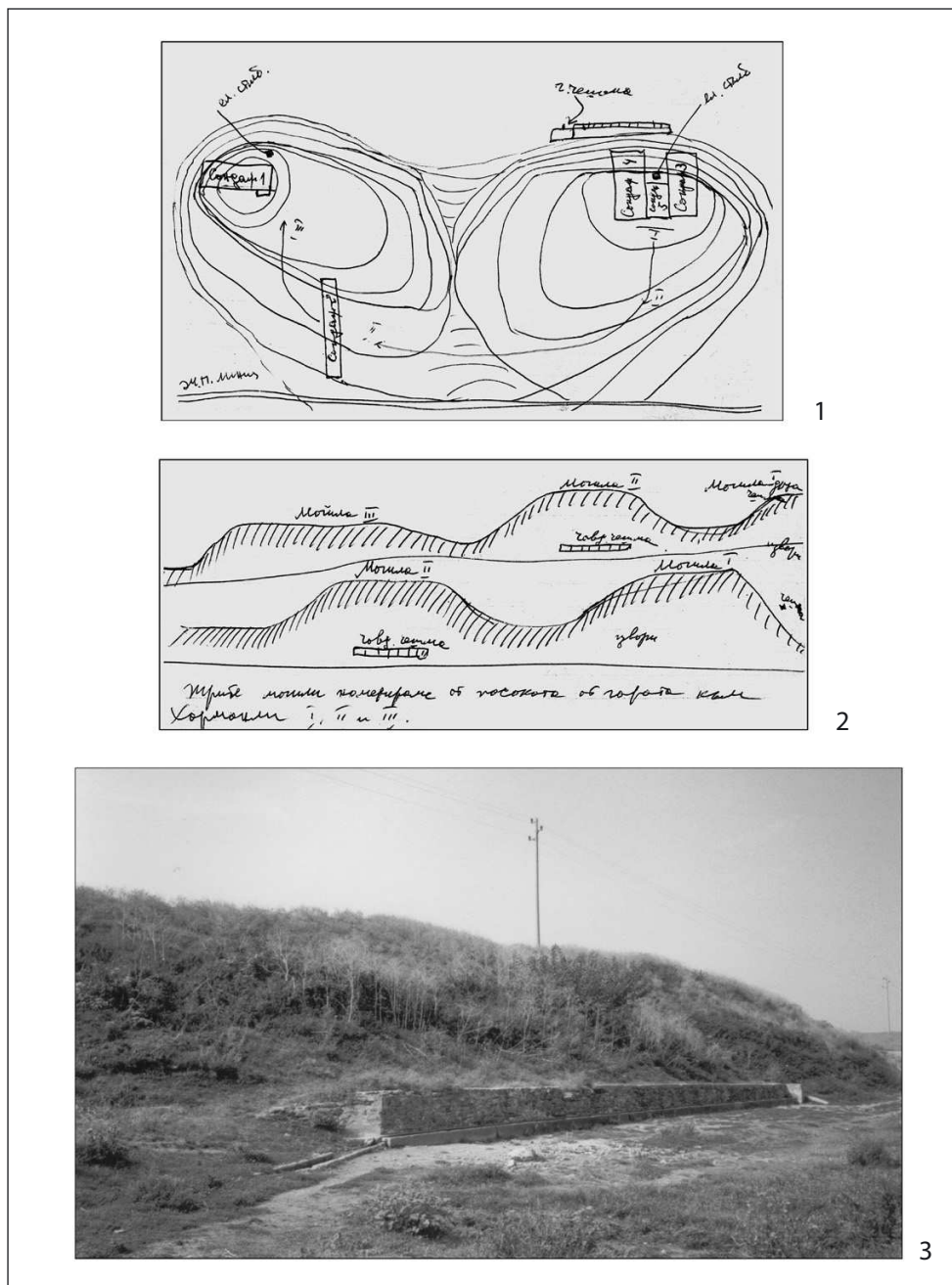
Фиг. 29. Керамика от РЖЕ, Асара (Констанция).
Fig. 29. EIA pottery, Assara (Constantia).



Да се провери мащаба!

Фиг. 30. Керамика от РЖЕ, Асара (Констанция).

Fig. 30. EIA pottery, Assara (Constantia).

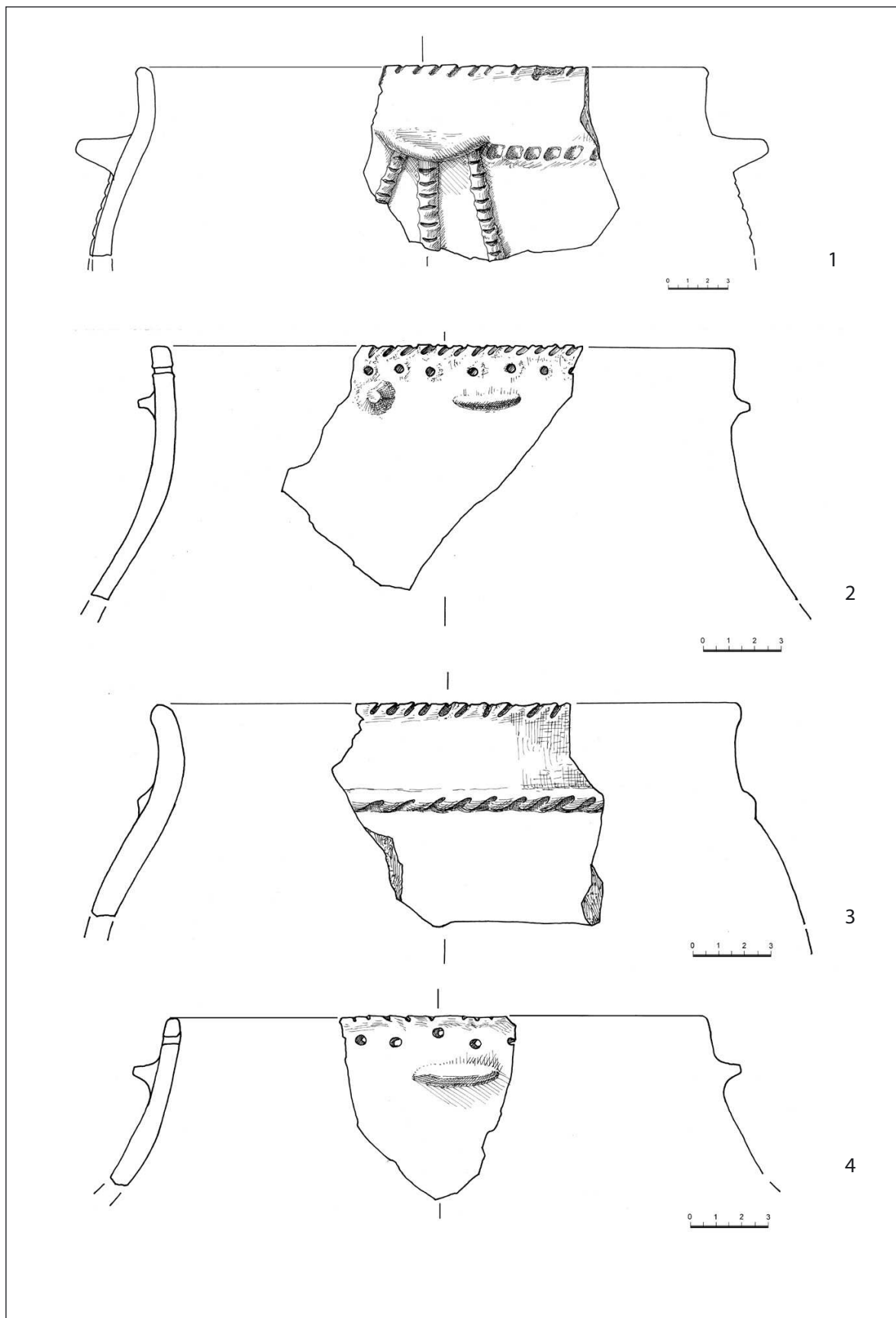


Фиг. 31. Схема на сондажите в м. Чавдарова чешма, 1967 и общ вид на хълм II, 2003.
 Fig. 31. Scheme of the Chavdarova cheshma locality, 1967 and main view on the hill II, 2003.

to the hand-made pottery of the end of EIA. Such idea seems reasonable in the light of the recently identified pottery in the valley of the Sazlijka river and its tributaries – probable West Anatolian milieu imports at the end of EIA (Nikov, K. 2001, 72, 81, Fig. 7). If it is so the pits are used for longer period or the EIA pottery in them has later date. On purely functional grounds, even in ritual context, the analogy with later corresponding practices is obvious

– quite very often the LIA ritual pits contain one or more fragments of black *firnis* vessels, regarded as exotic and, therefore, valuable. This tradition is spread both in the Upper and the Eastern Thrace – Yabalkovo and Aşağı Pınar, for instance.

As far as it can be judged by the published photos, the EIA pottery sherds are in general synchronous to those from the south part of the Assara plateau (cf. Аладжов, Д. и др. 1981, 298 – 301, Табл. VIII



Фиг. 32. Керамика от РБЕ, Чавдарова чешма.
Fig. 32. EBA pottery, Chavdarova cheshma.

– XI, 323, Табл. XXXII). However, the authors have wrongly dated the pottery in Pl. XXXI to the EIA. My personal examinations of the materials convince me that its dating in EBA is beyond any doubt. The recognition of EBA 3 pottery in the vicinity of the modern graveyard poses the question for the existence of a relevant occupation there, yet its dating is still imprecise, due to the scarcity of data. The site is probably related to that localized in Chavdarova cheshma locality but later than it.

Main problems on interpretation of the micro-region.

Palaeo-environmental reconstruction

Even a passing glance at the topographic map of the region gives the impression that the modern bed of the Maritsa has changed considerably. The old river course is clearly outlined by the contour lines to the west and to the south of the hill, which is therefore situated on the left and not on the right bank of the river. Seasonal flooding, during which the water-level of the Maritsa could rise up to several metres, may change the hill's nature into peninsular or even insular. Additional factor is the Sazlijka influx nearby. In the past its water-level has been higher than today and the Sazlijka has got its impact on the water balance of the region. Although specialized geomorphologic studies have never been made, during the field survey the excavators detected rocks bearing clear traces of continuous water flow.

Beyond any doubt is the fact that the Maritsa stream has been much higher in the past than at the present time. A rise of only 1 or 1.5 metres is enough to cause a radical change in the Assara surroundings (Fig. 34) never mind with river-bad was actual 5000 years ago. The valley around the plateau would turn to a large lake surrounded by swamps and marshy lands, passable only in the dry summer mouths. Reconstructions, as proposed here (Fig. 34–35), outline the hard accessibility of the place and enhance the exclusive dry land connection – to the north/northeast in the direction of the nearest site Deve-bargan if the river flowed south of Assara-plateau.

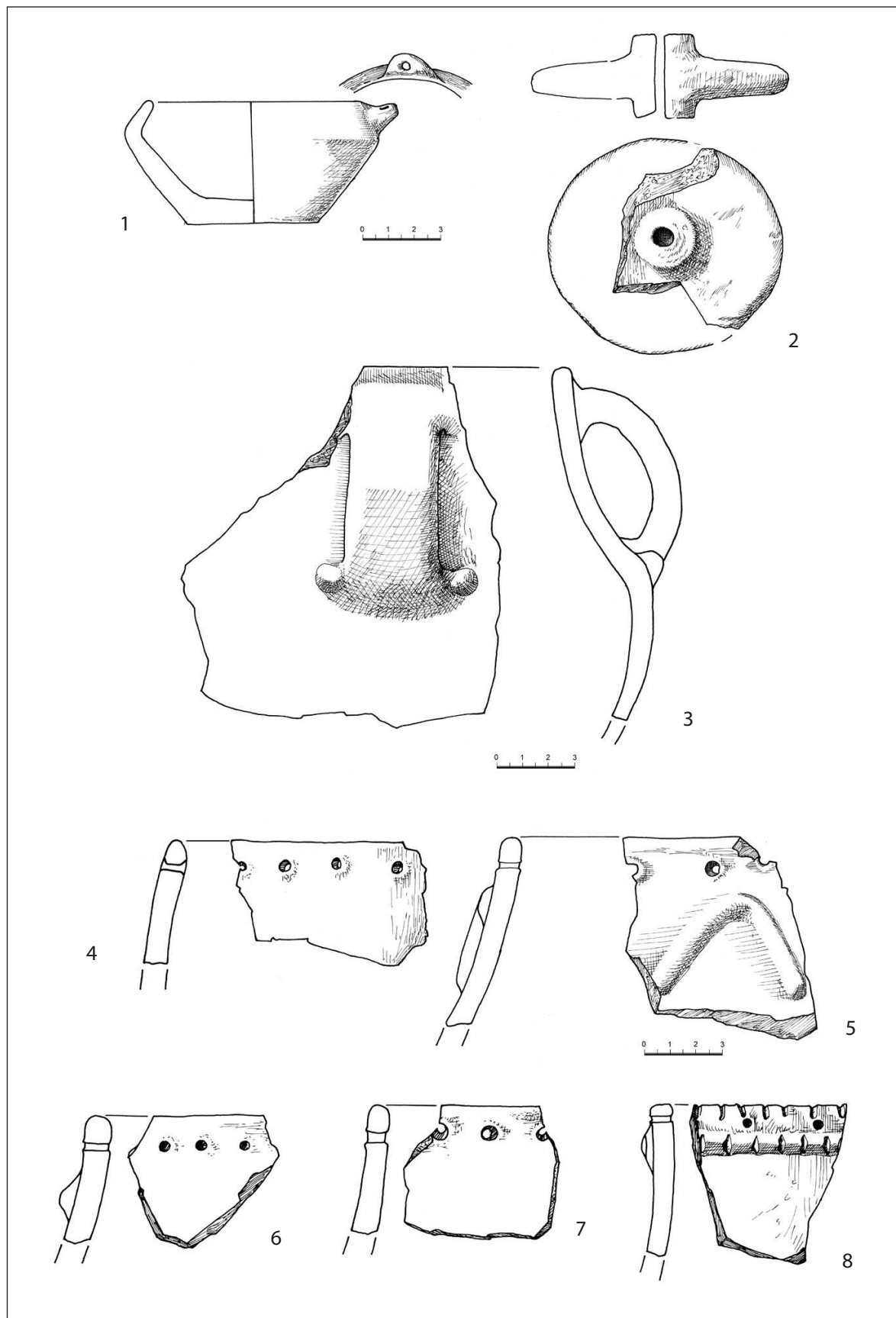
Even if this picture seems too exaggerated and further studies correct it, the position of Assara on the riverside is still a fact and the river impact raises no doubt. This fact is of great significance for understanding the contacts of BA and IA inhab-

itants of the site, which will be discussed below. Both historical records and ethnological data confirm that the Maritsa was not only navigable until the beginning of 20th century but also an extensive trade route, especially in spring and autumn (Делчев, А. 1965; Граматиков, Г. 1992 with ref.). Although the water-level in the later prehistory is still unknown, it could hardly be lower than that in the last two centuries. Thus the existence of prehistoric wharves is highly probable, yet their position – to the north and east or to the south and west of the hill – is uncertain. We can suppose that rafts and flat-bottomed ships have landed there during the periods of high water. One piece of evidence is the abundance of *amphorae* from the last centuries BC (Аладжов, Д. и др. 1981, 305-305, Табл. XV – XVI). The date of the formation of the present stream bed is uncertain. Taking into consideration the strong seismic activity of the region (the Maritsa stream actually follows a seismic fault line), most probably it was the result of an earthquake, maybe the same that changed the Tundza stream bed near Kabyle.

Cultural milieu and settlement patterns (Figs. 34, 36).

The micro-region of modern Simenovgrad is one of the highest densities of prehistoric sites, compared to the rest of Upper Thrace. The explanation can hardly be restricted to favourable conditions for farming and livestock breeding, for the environment is similar to that in the other micro-regions. More important is the key position of the region – it is at the cross-point of the Eastern Rhodopes and the Sakar mountains, where the Maritsa sharply curves to the south, and the Sazliyka runs from the north. The geographical advantages in all probability enforced the development of trade, trans-regional contacts and infrastructure from the prehistory onwards. A few kilometres to the north runs the route of the Roman *Via militaris*, which is considered to inherit an ancient road of prehistoric and Thracian times. It is not accidental that powerful fortresses are built up here in the Antiquity and life was so intensive throughout the Middle Ages.

The settlement pattern, represented by the EBA sites on the Assara plateau and its surroundings, is comparable to that on the plateau near the village of Znamenosets several dozen kilometres northern. Unfortunately, the comparison is inadequate,



Фиг. 33. Керамика и находки от РБЕ, Чавдарова чешма.

Fig. 33. EBA pottery and small finds from the Chavdarova cheshma locality.

because the last site is investigated only through small trenches (Leshtakov et al. 2001, 22, 63, Fig. 33 with ref.) However, as far as is known for the EBA in Upper Thrace, these two sites show certain deviation from the traditional model – “*acropolis*” on tell – *satellite site* – *open-air settlement* – dominating the settlement pattern in general. No tell is formed in the region of Simeonovgrad. Notwithstanding that life here continues without substantial breaks from the end of 7th to 1st millennium BC, the settlements left thin layers and shift places. Nowhere occupational deposits exceed 2 metres in thickness.

The beginning of life here is placed by the Early Neolithic settlement in Chavdarova cheshma (the end of 7th millennium BC). At a distance of some 1.5 km lies the big prehistoric site of Deve-bargan at the Sazlijka outflow. From the topographic point of view this huge site strongly resembles Assara – it is situated also at high plateau with steep slopes above the very bank of the Sazlijka river (Попов, P. 1926). The prehistoric sequence includes Early and Late Chalcolithic and EBA layers and as it is evident from the materials available it is considerably representative compared to Assara one. The excavations and publication took place in the first decades of 20th century, and the symptomatic materials give grounds for the definition and introduction in the 1940s of a new term – Early Chalcolithic Maritsa culture, still valid at the present time. The non-professional excavators reveal 6 m thick cultural layer without reaching the virgin soil. According to the coins found there the life continues in the Roman (1–3 c. AD) and Mediaeval periods (9–11 c. AD), hence in this respect the line of continuation is prolonged by the strong Roman activities lacking at Assara (Constantia). Another Late Neolithic and Chalcolithic settlement is mentioned on the territory of modern Simeonovgrad but its exact dating is uncertain (Аладжов, Д. 1997, 228). Early Chalcolithic pits have been investigated in the Chavdarova cheshma locality (cf. supra), which yielded mainly pottery materials, assignable to the beginning of the Early Chalcolithic. So far, no sure data for the Late Chalcolithic occupation exist with the exception of the Deve-bargan site.

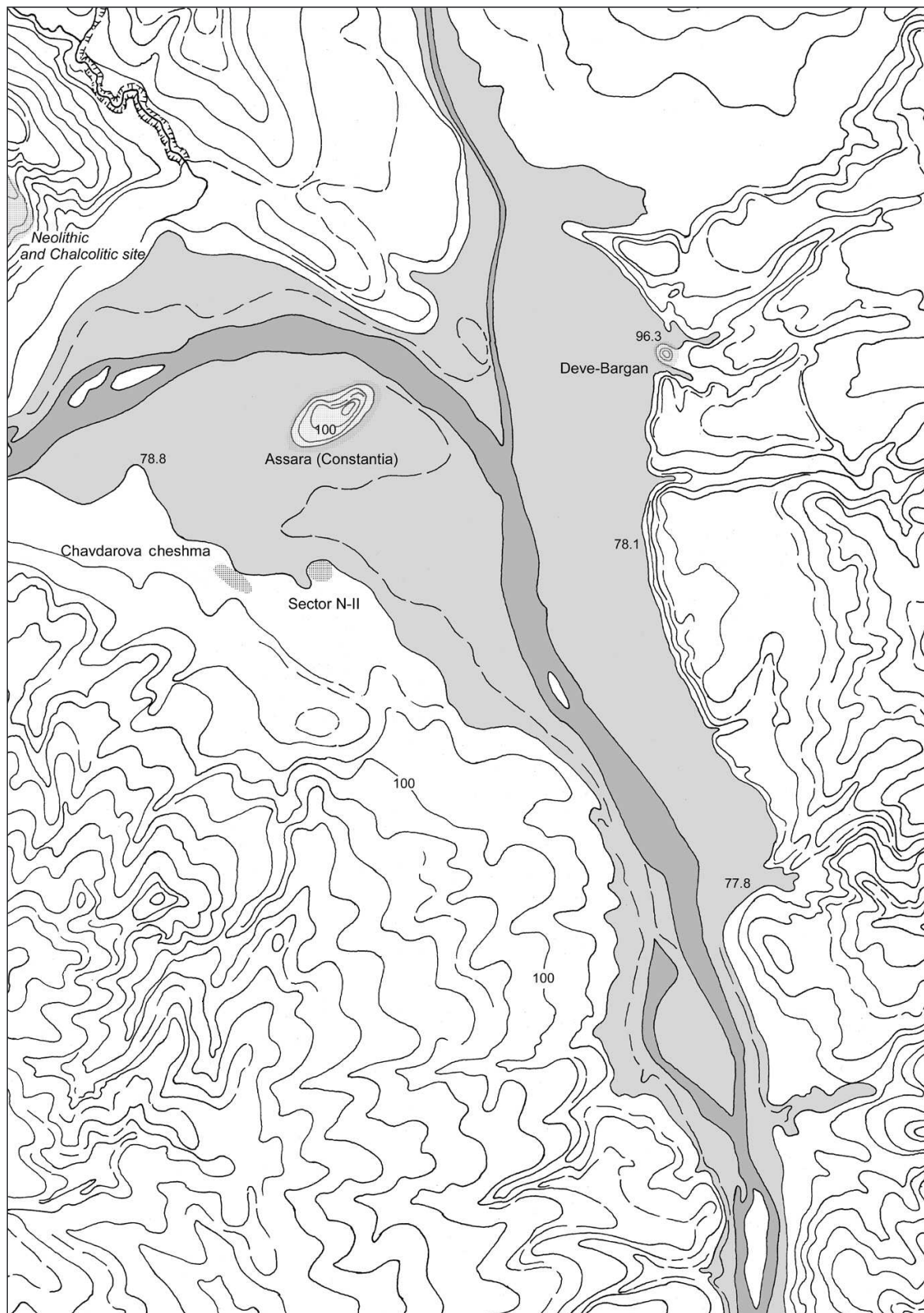
The EBA materials published from Deve-bargan cover almost all third millennium BC. There are pottery shapes and patterns contemporary to the Ezero levels 13-4 and also to the EBA 3 known from Ezero, Nova Zagora tell and elsewhere²⁰. Moreo-

ver, by the non-professional digging in the 20-is of the last century a dozen metal finds have been collected which determined the site as a point of local metalworking too. This is very important detail of accomplishing the picture already sketched by the Assara evidence. Considering all data available one can propose that the main centre of the settlement structure in the BA is Deve-bargan itself and not Assara (Constantia) but the suggestion needs further argumentation.

To continue with the register of the EBA settlements in the micro-region it should be mentioned that one localized on the most southern hill of the Chavdarova cheshma locality. The site dates back to the EBA 1 but to the very beginning of the period, so it is synchronous to Deve-bargan in general. EBA 2 evidence originates only from the last one, although it is not possible to determine the settlement in details due to the scanty information published long ago. The EBA 3 period is represented in materials from the Assara plateau and Sector H – II, as well as at Deve-bargan, e. g. in three different sites. At that time this part of the valley appears to be most densely settled. Several kilometres to the north is the large EBA settlement near Pyasachevo village lying on the right bank of the Sazlijka river. East of it is the single-layer settlement near the village of Dryanovo, non-existing today. At a distance of 11 km to the north, upstream the Sazlijka river lays Galabovo, and a few kilometres to the south, downstream the Maritsa is the EBA settlement in the land of Shishmanovo village (Fig. 36). Such density in settling is almost comparable to the picture prior to the Industrial Revolution in the same region; of course, the demographic picture is rather different.

The BA occupation of Assara must have continued at least until the end of the 3rd millennium BC, together with that of Galabovo, or even in the first centuries of the 2nd millennium BC. However, no preserved levels assignable to that time are exposed on the site.

The few evidence of the LBA can not be dated prior the final stage of the period and it is reasonable to say the culture is scanty represented in the micro-region in general. That time the surrounding high-lands around are sensitivity occupied judging from the available data of Sakar and North-eastern Rhodope mountains. No evidence exists for the transition to the EIA. Finally, we can not avoid



Фиг. 34. Реконструкция на палеосредата при повдигане на нивото на водите на р. Марица с 1-3 м. На картата са нанесени по-важните обекти в микрорайона.

Fig. 34. Reconstruction of the palaeo-environment of then micro-region in case of rising of the Maritsa water level with 1 – 3 meters. The mayor find spots of the micro-region are also plotted.

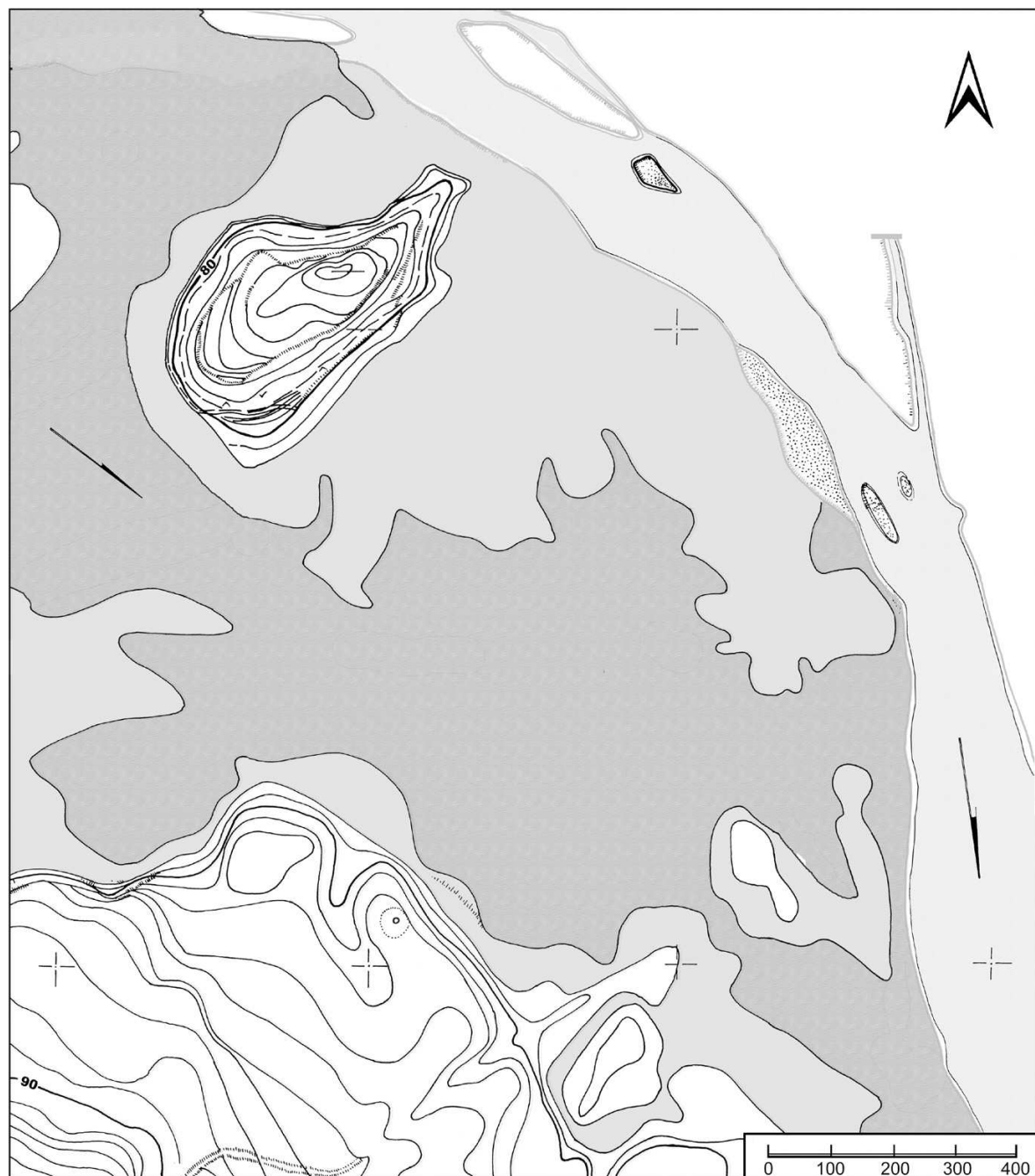
the negative inference, valid for the whole region of Thrace, concerning the cemeteries of the prehistoric settlements.

EIA settlement pattern in the micro-region

The investigations of the EIA settlement pattern in the region are still inadequate and we need to put the discussion on a larger scale. Comparable EIA structures occur at almost all the settlement mounds to the south of Assenovets in the Sredna gora foothills: Nova Zagora, Ezero, Dyadovo, Galabovo, etc. As a rule, the thickness of deposits nowhere exceeds 0.30 – 0.40 m and the evidence of house debris is rather scarce. According to one of the current views, although not generally accepted, these are remains of short-term settlements of seminomadic or transhumant pastoral groups. The alternative view, holding the idea for ritual sites (centres?), seems to lie on ill-grounded arguments. One example is the comparison between the pottery concentration in the separate sectors of Dyadovo and other ritual sites, which is regarded as an argument in favour of the sacred character of the site (cf. Гоцев, А. 1994, 137 and note 5). The recorded spots of higher concentration of EIA sherds simply reflect the state of preservation of the deposits, destroyed by some hundreds of mediaeval pits. In fact, there is a process of “sacralization” of the mounds but it takes place at a considerably later date – at the very end of LIA. Thracian sanctuaries are documented by marble votive relieves at Galabovo and Ognyanovo and elsewhere (Детев, П. В. Мацанова 1977, 58 – 59, обр. 18 – 19; Саватинов, С. 1997, 65 – 68). However, it is impossible to transfer automatically this concept a millennium earlier. The idea of earlier Thracian ritual activities on the mounds needs further argumentation and the same holds true for the situation of Assara (Constantia). Arguments in favour of this theory could be drawn from the similar in terms of topography EIA sanctuary in Izvora locality near the village of Rogozinovo, Harmanli district (Stoyanov, Т., К. Ников 1997, 199, 182, 187, Fig. 18). The investigated pits, dug in the silt, yielded not only ceramic vessels but also anthropomorphic figurines comparable to those from Assara (Constantia). Therefore, it is possible that a certain part of the plateau has functioned as a ritual place, yet it by no means excludes the existence of an occupied area. The presence of a sacred area within the settlement is

not unusual for Upper Thrace, as it is attested later in Pistiros and Kabyle. The question on the initial stage of this settlement, sanctuary or the complex of two components remains open. The LBA materials are very little so they do not allow existence of ancestors of any kind on the plateau or in the studied areas, at least. Moreover it is not clear whether the LBA materials enter the 11 c. BC as *terminus ante quem* for the EIA occupation.

Entering the Early Iron age problematic itself it is not possible to avoid the so-called horizon of fluted decoration which in fact arises from the main question of the stratigraphic determination of the local pottery styles and the chronologic priority of some of them. The kernel point of the question is – whether there are two horizons at Assara (Constantia) represented by the “channelling” and “stamped” styles or there is one horizon with mixed ceramic styles (Figs. 27–30). The discussion is opened for several decades and no site in Upper Thrace with positive evidence has been published yet. Moreover, in the whole region there is no place where the fluted pottery to be unearthed in complexes and in sequence with the stamped style. It seems there should be two sites with needed criteria in the Sakar and Eastern Rhodope mountains but they are sanctuaries (Leshtakov, К. 2002, 37, 41 – 46, Fig. 22 – 23. 1-2; cf. also the article of G. Nehrizov in this volume with ref.). As is well known, the direct transfer of information from sacred places to ordinarily settlements, as well *vice versa*, is very risky. An effort to agree chronological priority of the fluted style has been made introducing the schemes direct from the North (Гоцев, А. 1994, 137 – 138 with ref.) and it is less provable. The “hastattization” of the Eastern Balkans proposed by the quoted author has been resulted by the massive infiltration of the elements (cultural and ethnic enclaves) passing along the line “Babadag I – Sboryanovo – Shumen fortress – Longoza region – Sazliyka valley”, which discredit any idea of local continuity. This migration theory is in hard contradiction with evidence from South: the black burnished hand-made ware patterned by channelling is well known as in the Macedonia as well in the Anatolia, for instance in Hattuša²¹. However, the question of the priority of the fluted style reflects on the internal chronology of the EIA occupation at Assara (Constantia) and the reconstruction of the cultural sequence in the micro-region in general.



Фиг. 35. Реконструкция на палеосредата при предположеното старо речно корито на Марица и повдигане на нивото на водата с 1 – 2 м.

Fig. 35. Reconstruction of then palaeo-environment of the micro-region in case of changing the bed and the rising of the Maritsa water level with 1 – 2 meters.

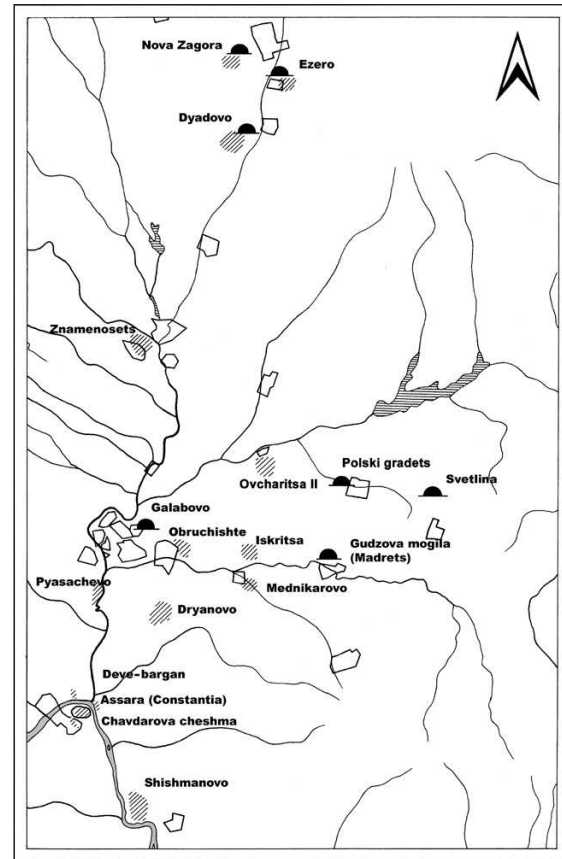
In conclusion I would like to spot-light one methodological point of the prehistoric investigations in South Bulgaria which is actual currently. According to some authors the profound investigation of a separate micro-region representing one relatively closed eco- and cultural system started in the beginning of the 80-ies with the Bulgarian-German exca-

vations at Drama. When the first preliminary generalisation of the results has been published (Lichardus, J. et al. 2000) some colleagues have spectacularly proclaimed this as a model for all Bulgarian archaeology or even for the prehistory of South-eastern Europe. A matter of honour is to certain the priority of the pioneering works of the colleagues

in this field. Constantia investigations are the same type project started almost 20 years before Drama excavations. It should be only regret the long preparations of the rich prehistoric results for publishing and that the study is oriented mostly to the roman period afterwards. By contrast with the neighbouring region Maritsa-iztok, where similar project is in course now (Leshtakov, K. et al. 2001, 15 – 68), Constantia excavations have not been rescue ones, e. g. they have been planned and carried systematically out to attempt shear scientific positions. Both projects added to the Bulgarian-German, mentioned above, supply very rich evidence which provokes profound interpretations. Obviously this article needs an addendum ...²²

Acknowledgements.

The communication would not concern with all details if the kind support of the Mr. Irko Petrov from the Museum of Khaskovo missed. He provided accesses to all finds in the Museum depot and all field documentation. I have chance several years ago to communicate with Mr. Plamen Dimitrov who kindly gave me photos from his archive and description of some small finds kept now in the National Museum of History, Sofia. I would like also to tender special gratitude to old Mr. Dimcho Aladjov, leader of the excavations, for the manuscripts and long cordial discussions.



Фиг. 36. Схема на по-важните обекти в микро-района на Асара (Коанстанция) и на север от него.

Fig. 36. Sketch of the mayor prehistoric sites in the micro-region and Assara (Constantia) and to the North.

¹The title of the paper comes from the designation “TS” – “Thracian settlement”, given to one of the excavated sectors in Assara (Constantia). It encompasses the remains from third millennium B.C. up to the last centuries BC.

²With regard to the site’s name it must be cleared out that the name Assara is overspread in the region and given by locals to all of the old fortresses, eg. the settlement mound in Galabovo. For that reason the site is referred in the text as Assara (Constantia), although it is still questionable whether this is the right localization of the mediaeval Constantia.

³In his notebook, D. Aladjov wrote some curious details: The legend told about some underground tunnels that gave access down to the river through a vaulted passage and stairs. The local prophetess granny Yona had seen the secret entrance in her dream and it was really there where treasure hunters found it in 1937. They passed through the vaulted passage exactly as it was in the legend. Encouraged by this success, the same group went on looking for “a church with a golden throne”. Whether they found it or not, the rumours

keep silence. When the archaeologists began their work the corridor was already ruined almost to the stone steps leading to the plain.

⁴In the separate seasons of work, members of the team are I. Petrov, D. Balabanjan, Pl. Georgiev, Kr. Kapelkova et al.

⁵The last excavations are initiated by M. Domaradsky and carried out by the Institute of Archaeology under the supervision of G. Nehrizov. Due to one or another reason, they remain completely unpublished, and so are not commented here.

⁶In 1976 the excavations in Sector South are conducted by D. Kirkov, and that in Sector North – by D. Balabanjan.

⁷An almost complete cup (Filed Inv. No. 366) that could be dated in the EBA 3 is found at a depth of 1.20 m in area E₉₁.

⁸The portable ‘pot-stand’ (Inv. No393) is found at a depth of 1.90 m in J₉ in the EBA house context. As far as can be judged by the photo (drawing is not available), there are two prolong vertical holes near the handle. From the functional

point of view there must be two vertical legs between them. If this is so, it is impossible part of the stand covered by finger impressions to touch the ground. Nevertheless, more important is the observation that it is exactly that part bearing traces of continuous contact with fire, i.e. it is acceptable that the object is used as a real pot-stand.

⁹It is possible that the amphora is found in G₂ at a depth of 2.05 m. It was noted in the field notebook for 1976 that a large globular vessel is found decorated with triangles (?). There is no such example among the complete vessels from Assara (Constantia), so it could be the amphora under discussion. If it is so, the amphora could be associated with building level 3.

¹⁰Vesselinovo type axes and the comparable to them are discussed in Nakau, G. 1997, 637 – 638, Fig. 2 with ref. (from Poliochni); Катинчаров, Р., В. Мацанова, 1993, 159, 170, обр. 18 (from Yunatsite); a current overview on the theme in Maran, J. 2001, 175 – 284 with ref., esp. 19, Abb. 1)

¹¹The closest parallel of the pin comes from Gudzova mogila tell near the village of Madrets bur it is chance find. For this type pins in Anatolia cf. Egeli, G. 1995, 179: A-Pins, 197; cf. also similar pieces from Troy in Mangani, E. 1997, 616, Fig. 13 – Schliemann's present to L. Pigoroni.

¹²The picture kindly sent me Mr. Pl. Georgiev but the artifact is nowhere available.

¹³On the small finds cf. the article of V. Petrova in this volume.

¹⁴In the field report for 1967 the dating is not specified. It is possible that pottery sherds are in fact from the LBA (?).

¹⁵Channel decoration occurs in EBA only in Ezero A phase but never on such vessels as that described by D. Aladzov.

¹⁶The four anthropomorphic figurines are found in X₃₉ at a depth of 1.60 m BM (Inv. No 300–304).

¹⁷These pits have been considered as ritual ones forming Early Chalcolithic sanctuary, cf. Радунчева, А. 2003, 209 – 210 and fig. 54.

¹⁸The Early Neolithic evidence from Chavdarova cheshma site will be discussed elsewhere.

¹⁹A member of the team excavated Chavdarova cheshma site was also Mr. I. Petrov who shared some details of the filed work at the time.

²⁰This is not the place of discussions of the Deve-bargan pottery in details although it is very important for the Upper Thrace investigations in general.

²¹Thanks to Dr. J. Seeher for the opportunity to make autopsy of the EIA hand-made pottery from Hattuşa in DAI Istanbul.

²²This theme will be developed in two directions – to detail the analysis of the information available, and to its chronological expand. In the last aspect it is worth to consider the LIA pits at Assara (Constantia) which obviously form a sanctuary similar to those in Yabalkovo excavated recently by the author.

Assara (Constantia).

Catalogues

Abbreviations:

H – height; Dr – diameter of the rim; Db – diameter of the base; D – diameter; W – width; L – length; Th – thickness; R – radius; ▼ – depth; E – East; W – West; N – North; S – South; Neg. – Negative; NMH – National Museum of History Sofia; M – Museum; b. l. – building level. Some vessels and small finds are not available and we have information only from the pictures, for instance those on Figs. 6. 7; 6.9M 17.2, etc. Pottery and sherds from Assara (Constantia).

1. “Depas amhpikypellon”

Intact vessel.
Colour: black, uneven.
Slip: fine, blackish.
Treatment of the surface: shining burnished.
Paste: semi-fine (fine quartz grains in middle concentration, coarse quartz grains in low concentration, fine mica in middle concentration).
Scatter: brown, even.
Additional data: hand-made, asymmetrical handled.
Dimensions: H = 15.5 cm;

Dr = 8.2 cm; Db = 2.5 cm.
1.07.1977, area Г, 1 b.l.▼ 1.50–1.70 m, found in the free space between hoses. Steady stratigraphic context. There is only one pit dug in the Hellenistic time in the SW part of the area. M Khaskovo A 2223.
Fig. 10.2.

2. Sherd of “Depas amhpikypellon”

A part of the vertical handle with a small piece of the wall.
Colour: outer surface – red, even, inner – light brown.
Slip: red coated.
Treatment of the surface: shining burnished.
Paste: very fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
Wheel-made. There are well visible traces of potter's fingers on the inner surface of the wall.
Dimensions: H (preserved) = 13.5 cm; D = 1.5 cm.
Assara (Constantia) 1977, TS – W Part, C₇₉,▼ 1.50 m.
Fig. 10.3, 10.1 – a handle to the right in the photo.

3. Sherd of “Depas amhpikypellon”

A sherd of the lower part of the body and a base.
Cylindrical shape of the body and broad flat base.
Colour: outer – red, even, inner – light brown.
Slip: red coated.
Treatment of the surface: shining burnished.
Paste: very fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
Wheel-made. There are well visible traces of potter's fingers on the inner surface of the wall.
Dimensions: H (preserved) = 3 cm; D = 8.5 cm; Db = 7.5 cm; Th. of wall = 0.4 cm.
Assara (Constantia) 1977, TS – W Part, C₇₉,▼ 1.40 m.
Fig. 10.4.

4. Sherd of “Depas amhpikypellon”

A part of the lower part of the body and a base of one handle is preserved.
Cylindrical body.
Colour: light brown.
Slip: wash.
Treatment of the sur-

- face: shining burnished.
Paste: very fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
Wheel-made. There are well visible traces of potter's fingers on the inner surface of the wall.
Dimensions: H (preserv.) = 4 cm; D = 6.8 cm; Db = 4.8 cm; D handle = 1.7 cm; Th. of the wall = 0.5 cm.
Assara (Constantia) 1977, TS – W Part, C₇₉, ▼ 1.40 m.
Fig. 10.5.
5. Sherd of “Depas amhpikypellon”.
A sherd of the power part of the body.
Cylindrical shape of the body and small flat base.
Colour: light brown.
Slip: wash.
Treatment of the surface: shining burnished.
Paste: very fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
Wheel-made. There are well visible traces of potter's fingers on the inner surface of the wall.
Dimensions: H (preserv.) = 4 cm; D = 5.5 cm; Db = 2 cm; D handle = 2.2 x 1.5 cm; Th. of the wall = 0.5 cm.
Assara (Constantia) 1977, Sector TS – W Part, C₇₉, ▼ 1.40 m.
Fig. 10.6.
6. Sherd of “Depas amhpikypellon”.
A fragment of the lower part of the body.
Cylindrical body, conical by the base.
Colour: outer surface – reddish-brown, inner – even brown.
Slip – wash.
Treatment of the surface: shining burnished.
Paste: very fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
Wheel-made. There are well visible traces of potter's fingers on the inner surface of the wall.
Dimensions: H (preserv.) = 6 cm; D = 6 cm; Db = 4 cm; D handle = 1.7 cm; Th. of the wall = 0.4 cm.
Assara (Constantia) 1977, Sector TS – W Part, C₇₉, ▼ 1.40 m.
Fig. 10.7.
7. Sherd of “Depas amhpikypellon”.
A sherd of the lower part of the body without the bottom transition.
Cylindrical shape of the body.
Colour: outer surface – red, even, inner – light brown.
Slip: red coated.
Treatment of the surface: shining burnished.
Paste: very fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
Wheel-made. There are well visible traces of potter's fingers on the inner surface of the wall.
Dimensions: no data.
Assara (Constantia) 1977, TS – W Part, C₇₉, ▼ 1.40 m.
Fig. 10.1 – the sherd in the lower part of the photo in the centre.
8. Bowl-herd.
Colour: black, lighter spots – brown-grey.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: black, even.
Fig. 11.1.
9. Bowl.
Intact profile. One horizontal handle.
Colour: red-brown, even.
Slip: fine coloured in red-brown.
Treatment of the surface: polished.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: brown with dark brown core.
H = 8 cm; Dr = 16 cm; Db = 8 cm.
Fig. 11.2.
10. Bowl.
Colour: grey-black to blackish, brown around the base.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in strips.
Paste: fine.
Scatter: even, brown-grey.
Measurements: H = 10 cm; Dr = 22 cm; Db = 7 cm.
Excavations 1967.
M Khaskovo A 2673.
Fig. 11.3.
11. Deep bowl.
Colour: brown-grey.
Slip: thin, fine.
Treatment of the surface: well smoothed.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: Intact vessel.
Plastic bands around the two vertical handles and ‘bucranium’ below the rim.
Measurements: H = 17 cm; Dr = 19 cm; Db = 7 cm.
M Khaskovo A 2224.
Fig. 11.4.
12. Bowl-herd.
Colour: black.
Slip: middle thick.
Treatment of the surface: burnished on spots.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: black, even.
Decoration: vertical grooves.
Fig. 12.1.
13. Bowl-herd.
Colour: black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, grey-brown.
R = 12 cm.
Decoration: vertical grooves.
Fig. 12.2.
14. Bowl-herd.
Colour: brown; black-grey spots.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: beige-brown, even.
Decoration: vertical grooves.
Fig. 12.3.
15. Bowl-herd.
Colour: beige-brown.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, grey-brown.
Decoration: vertical grooves.
Fig. 12.4.
16. Sherd of bowl.
Colour: grey-brown, whit grey-blackish spots.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: polished.
Paste: fine, grog tempering.
Scatter: grey-beige, even.
Excavations 1967, Sector N, C I, ▼ 1.40–1.60 m.
Fig. 12.5.
17. Sherd of bowl.
Colour: brown-grey, black-grey spots.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed unevenly.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black-grey, even.
Decoration: plastic band.
Fig. 12.6.
18. Sherd of bowl.
Colour: black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: fine.
Scatter: beige, even.
Decoration: incised and stamped, white incrustation.
Excavations 1977; TS 13 II, area C₈₀, ▼ 0.20 m.
Fig. 12.7.
19. Sherd of Z-profiled bowl.
Colour: grey-black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, black.

Context: ▼ 1.40–1.60 m.
Fig. 12.8.

20. Sherd of bowl.
Colour: grey.
Slip: semi-thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: dark grey with light grey strip inside.
Fig. 12.9.

21. Sherd of deep bowl.
Colour: black-grey.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in strips.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: black.
Fig. 12.10.

22. Sherd of T-rim bowl.
Colour: brown-grey.
Slip: middle thick.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: black.
Fig. 12.11.

23. Bowl-herd.
Colour: black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: black.
Fig. 13.1.

24. Bowl sherd.
Colour: black.
Treatment of the surface: polished.
Paste: Semi-fine (mica, fine quartz sand and grog¹ in the clay).
Scatter: even black.
R 12/13 cm.
Fig. 13.2.

25. Handles type “Assenovets”.
No data.
Fig. 13.3-9; 14.2–5.

26. Sherd of bowl.
Colour: black, even.
Slip: Self-slip.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in spots.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, black.
Fig. 14.1.

27. Sherd of bowl.
Colour: beige-grey, even.
Slip: semi-thin.
Treatment of the surface: polished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, grey.
Fig. 14.6.

28. Sherd of bowl.

Data: cf. 14.6.
Fig. 14.7.

29. Sherd of bowl.
Data: cf. fig. 14.6.
Fig. 14.8.

30 Trumpet handle on pot.
Colour: brown to red ochre.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, dark grey.
Fig. 14.9.

31. Sherd of big cup or deep bowl (?).
Colour: dark brown in the upper side a to black in the lower side.
Slip: self-slip.
Treatment of the surface: burnishing in spots.
Paste: semi-fine.
Decoration: plastic and strokes.
Scatter: black, even.
Fig. 14.10.

32. Small pot.
Colour: dark brown, brown-grey in spots.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: only the upper part of the vessel is smoothed.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: even, black.
Handles: two vertical and two lugs.
No decoration.
Measurements: H = 7.3 cm; Dr = 8.5 cm; Db = 4.8 cm.
06.1978. TS W Part, area C₇₉.
▼ 1.60 steady context.
NMH 18432; Field No 250.
Fig. 6.4; 15.1

33. Deep bowl.
Colour: beige-brown, with beige and brown spots.
Slip: Self-slip.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed, uneven burnished.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: grey-brown, even.
Decoration: six doubled plastic knobs symmetrically exposed on the body.
Measurements: H = 8 cm; Dr = 9.4 cm; Db = 4.8/4.3 cm.
1977, TS W Part; Area C_{79/80}⁷ above the ruins of the 1 b.l., steady context, ▼ 1.00–1.10 m, found together with No 251.
NMH, Neg. № II-494/7-8.
NMH 18434; Field No 252.
Fig. 6.5; 15.2.

34. Handless cup.
Colour: red-brown.

Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: coarse.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: even, red.
Measurements: H = 7.5 cm; Dr = 9 cm; Db = 5.5 cm.
Excavations 1967. No data of the context.
Without number.
Fig. 15.3.

35. Shallow cup with two handles.
Colour: grey-black, brow spots.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed, unevenly burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter:?, intact vessel.
Decoration: Two plastic projections between the handles.
Measurements: H = 9 cm; Dr = 11 cm; Db = 5 cm.
Sector N; ▼ 1.60–1.80 m; area Γ₁. S: 1.60; E: 1.90 m.
M Khaskovo A 2239.
Fig. 15.4.

36. Small spouted pot.
Colour: dark grey.
Slip: very fine, wash.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in strips.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: light brown with two tin grey strips.
Measurements: H = 7 cm; Dr = 6.5 cm; Db = 4 cm.
Excavations 1967.
From the surface layer collected.
M Khaskovo A 2502.
Fig. 15.5–6.

37. Miniature vessel.
Colour: grey-black.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unsmoothed.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: brown-beige, even.
Measurements: H = 5 cm; Dr = 2.7 cm.
1978, TS, area C₇₉, WE: 2.20; NS: 0 m. ▼ 1.70 m, 1 b.l.
NMH, Neg. № I-9-10.
NMH 18472; Field No 399.
Fig. 6.3; 15.7

38. Small jug.
Colour: black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: polished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, black.
Decoration: incised angles.
Measurements: H = 13.4 cm; Dr = 8 cm; Db = 4.6 cm.
3 b.l.; ▼ 2.05 m; Sector North; area Γ₆; S: 0.30; E: 0.60 m.

M Khaskovo, A 2236.
Fig. 15.8.

39. Cup.
Colour: beige-brown to grey, uneven.
Slip: Self-slip.
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed and partly burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: ? Intact vessel.
No decoration.
Measurements: H = 7.3 cm; Dr = 5.3 cm; Db = 3.2 cm.
NMH 18433.
Fig. 6.6; 16.1.

40. Jug.
Colour: brown.
Slip: Self-slip.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed with traces of burnishing.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, brown-grey.
Decoration: stamped dots below the rim, plastic knob on the heist part of the handle.
Measurements: H = 10.3 cm; Dr = 8 cm; Db = 4.5 cm.
M Khaskovo A 2238.
Fig. 16.2.

41. Small jug.
Colour: black.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed and burnished on spots.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, blackish-grey.
No decoration.
Measurements: H = 8 cm; Dr = 5.2 x 5.8 cm; Db = 3.5 (?) cm.
Excavations 1967.
M Khaskovo A 2407.
Fig. 16.3.

42. Small jug.
Colour: uneven, beige-brown and black.
Slip: middle thick.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: fine.
Scatter: uneven, doubling the colour of the surface.
No decoration.
Assara (Constantia), Sector TS – W part, area C₉₀, ▼1.60 m.
Measurements: H = 6.7 cm; Dr = ?; Db = 3.5 cm.
NMH 18437; Field No 256.
Fig. 7.7; 16.4.

43. Jug.
Colour: brown with black spots.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, brown-grey.

Fragmented rim, base and handle. No decoration.
Measurements: H = 18 (?) cm; Dr = 9 (?) cm; Db = 8 (?) cm.
Excavations 1967.
M Khaskovo A 1878.
Fig. 16.5.

44. Small Jug.
Colour: grey-black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: ?, intact vessel.
Measurements: H = 7 cm; Dr = 4.2 cm; Db = 2.4 cm.
M Khaskovo A 2237.
Fig. 16.6.

45. Small jug or cup.
Colour: grey-black, beige spots.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed carefully.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: ?, intact vessel.
Measurements: H = 8.4 cm; Dr = 6.8 cm; Db = 4.3 cm.
M Khaskovo A 635.
Fig. 16.7.

46. Jug.
Colour: grey-black, beige and brown spots.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: polished.
Paste: fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
No decoration.
Comment: obviously this is true import and roughly contemporary to the depata cups.
Measurements: H = 7 (preserve.).
Assara (Constantia), TS W Part ▼ 1.20 m, above the ruins of the first b.l.
NMH 18 476. Neg. No I-13-18; I-13-19; Field No 396.
Fig. 6.8; 16.8.

47. Small jug.
Colour: brow, grey-black spots.
Slip: middle fine.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, grey-brown.
Broken handle. No decoration.
Measurements: H = 11.4 cm; Dr = 9 cm; Db = 5 cm.
Excavations 1967.
M Khaskovo A 2227.
Fig. 17.1.

48. Deep bowl sherd.
Colour: black.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed outside, carefully inside.

Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, black.
Decoration: plastic bands with strokes.
R = 7 cm.
Fig. 18.1.

49. Sherd of pot.
Colour: Black with brown spots.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black, even.
Fig. 18.2.

50. Fragment of the pot-rim.
Colour: black.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, black.
Plastic decoration.
D 15 cm.
Fig. 18.3.

51. Sherd of storage jar.
Colour: grey-beige.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: even, black; grey.
Decoration: plastic bands.
R 13 cm.
The same type as fig. 18.3. No drawing.

52. Sherd of T-rim pot.
Colour: brown.
Slip: semi-thick.
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed to burnishing.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: brown, even.
Decoration: strokes on the rim.
Fig. 18.4.

53. Sherd of pot.
Colour: black-grey.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed neck and coarse lower part of the vessel.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black.
Fig. 18.5.

54. Sherd of pot.
Colour: grey-beige.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, grey-brown.
Stamped decoration.
Fig. 18.6.

55. Sherd of pot.
Colour: brown-red.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: burnishing in strips.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: black.
Fig. 18.7.
56. Sherd of pot.
Colour: brown-grey.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: grey-black.
Fig. 18.8.
57. Fragment of the pot-rim.
Colour: grey-black, to grey-beige.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in strips.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, black.
Decoration: strokes on the rim.
Fig. 18.9.
58. Sherd of pot.
Colour: grey-black.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black.
Plastic bands below the handles.
Assara (Constantia) 1967, Sector North, ▼1.60–1.70 m.
Fig. 19.1.
59. Sherd of storage pot.
Colour: grey to beige-grey.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: grey core with two beige strips.
Fig. 19.2.
60. Sherd of pot.
Colour: beige to grey, even.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, grey.
Fig. 19.3.
61. Sherd of pot.
Colour: beige-brown.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: grey-black.
R 8 cm.
The same type as fig. 19.3. No drawing.
62. Sherd of two-handled pot.
Colour: grey-brown.
- Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: dark brown to black.
R = 9 cm.
Fig. 19.4.
63. Sherd of pot.
Colour: beige-grey.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: well smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even dark grey.
R 8.5/9 cm.
Fig. 19.5.
64. Sherd of amphora.
Colour: brick-red with brown spot. Secondary fired.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, red.
Fig. 19.6.
65. Sherd of handle of amphora or storage jar.
Colour: brown, even.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, brown.
Decoration: plastic.
Fig. 19.7.
66. Sherd of handle of amphora or storage jar.
Data: cf. fig. 19.7.
Fig. 19.8.
67. Sherd of pot.
Colour: grey-brown to grey-black.
Middle thin slip. Carefully smoothed;
Semi-coarse paste.
Even grey-brown scatter.
Decoration: strokes on the lug.
Fig. 20.1.
68. Sherd of pot or amphora.
Colour: black outer surface; dark brown-grey inner surface.
Slip: middle thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnishing in strips.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, brown.
Fig. 20.2.
69. Vertical handle of jug.
No data.
Fig. 20.3.
70. Sherd of Jug.
Colour: beige-brown.
- Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, brownish.
No context, 1967 excavations.
R = 7 cm.
Presumable LBA.
Fig. 20.4.
71. Sherd of the jug-handle.
Colour: brown, whit black-grey spots.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black.
Fig. 20.5.
72. Sherd of Jug.
Colour: beige-grey.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, brownish.
No context, 1967 excavations.
R = 4 cm.
Presumable LBA.
Fig. 20.6.
73. Sherd of jug-handle.
Colour: grey-brownish.
Slip: no.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, brownish.
No context, 1967 excavations.
Fig. 20.7.
74. Cup-herd.
Colour: black-grey, even; internal surface – black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed and burnished in spots.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: grey-blackish, even.
R = 4 cm.
Fig. 20.8.
75. Handle of small jug or big cup.
No data.
Fig. 20.9.
76. Sherd of the cup-handle.
Colour: beige-grey.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: polished.
Paste: fine paste.
Scatter: dark grey to black.
Fig. 20.10.
77. Cup-handle.
Colour: red, even.
Slip: red fine.
Paste: very fine, almost no intrusions. Fine mica both in the slip and in the paste.

Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Scatter: even brown.
Assara (Constantia),
03.07.1979, Sector TS.
Fig. 20.11.

78. Handle of jug.
Colour: brown, brown-grey spots.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in spots.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, brown-beige.
Fig. 21.1.

79. Jug-handle.
Colour: brown, brown-grey spots.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished on spots.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, brown-beige.
Fig. 21.2

80. Sherd of pot or amphora.
Colour: grey-beige.
Slip: thick.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: brown-beige.
Fig. 21.3.

81. Sherd of jug.
Colour: beige-grey; internal surface: black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine with fine mica intrusions.
Scatter: even, blackish.
Decoration: incised and strokes.
R = 10 cm (body).
Fig. 21.4.

82. Sherd of jug or mug.
Colour: beige-grey with a big grey-black spot; internal surface: black.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: fine.
Scatter: even, black-grey.
Decoration: incised and strokes.
R = 7 cm (body).
Fig. 21.5.

83. Sherd of the jug-body.
Colour: brown, with grey-blackish spots.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even, dark grey.
Decoration: incised.
Fig. 21.6.

84. Tea-pot spout.
Colour: black-grey, with grey-beige spots.

Slip: semi-fine.
Treatment of the surface: carefully smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, black-grey.
Fig. 21.7.

85. Sherd of "funnel"
Colour: grey-brownish.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: blackish-grey, even.
Fig. 21.8.

86. Sherd of amphora.
Colour: brown with black-grey spots.
Slip: fine.
Treatment of the surface: hard burnished.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: even black.
Decoration: incised, no traces of incrustation.
D of the base of the neck: ca. 38–40 cm.
Fig. 21.9.

Vessels without drawings:

87. Small shallow bowl.
Conical shape, flat base. Part of the walls and the rim missing.
Colour: grey.
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed.
Semi-fine gritty paste.
Scatter:?
Decoration: plastic knobs below the rim.
Assara (Constantia), TS, area J₄₁,
E: 1.60; S: 0.60m, ▼0.80 m.
NMH, Neg. No II-490-3; Field. No 332.
Fig. 6.1.

88. Sherd of open conical bowl.
Colour: beige-brown.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: even, with the surface colour.
R 7.5 cm.
The same type as fig. 6.1. No drawing.

89. Fragmented cup.
Only the lower part of the body is preserved.
Colour of the surface: grey-beige, on grey spots.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Semi-coarse gritty paste.
Scatter: with colour of the surface, blackish strip inside.
No preserved decoration.

Measurements: H (preserved) = 4.1 cm; Db = 2.3 cm.
Assara (Constantia) Sector East, area E⁹¹; Tower 5, S: 1.10, E: 1.30 m.
Field No 366.
Fig. 6.2.

90. Small jug.
Light brown, evenly smoothed.
9.06.1978 TS WPart; area C₇₉, ▼1.10 m.
Measurements: H = 7 cm; Dr = 4.5 cm; Db = 3.3 cm.
NMH, Neg. No II-491-2-3.
Field No 251. Found together with No 252.
NMH.
Fig. 6.6.

91. Small jug.
The rim, handle and part of the neck missing. Flat base.
Colour: light brown to black, spotted.
Burnished surface.
Assara (Constantia), TS WPart, area C₉₀, ▼1.60 m.
Measurements: H (preserve.): 6.5 cm; Db: 3.5 cm.
NMH, Neg. No II-491/6-7.
Fig. 7.1.

Catalogue of the some small finds from Assara (Constantia), EBA.

92. Pot-stand.
Only a part of the item is preserved. The upper surface is light concave, well smoothed. There are finger-prints on the surface below. The artefact has had legs, now – broken, as well as one (?) small handle. The part of the pot-stand has well visible traces of repeatedly secondary firing. It is shaped of paste with coarse intrusions of slam stones and quartz sand. No data about the dimensions.
Assara (Constantia), Sector TS West part, area J₉, ▼1.90 m, from house debris.
NMH, Field. No 393.
Fig. 7.5–6.

93. Kiln-stopper.
Colour: red.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: very coarse, unsmoothed.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: red.
H = 5 cm; D = 11/12.5 cm.
Assara (Constantia) Sector N, ▼1.40–1.60 m.
Fig. 23.4.

94. Kiln-stopper.
Data: cf. fig. 23.4.

Assara (Constantia) Sector N.
NMH, Field No 398.
Fig. 23.5-5a.
Shaft-hole axe type "Vesselinovo".
Cast bronze. Broken. Covered by green patina.
Measurements: L (preserved) = 6 cm H = 3.9 cm Th. max = 1.8 cm.
Assara (Constantia), Sector TS, area C79, ▼1.40–1.50 m, second b.l.
M Khaskovo, A 2333.
Fig. 22. 1–2.

95. Needle, bronze (?).
Conical head and body with circular section.
Turned in lower part, broken.
L (preserved) 3.7 cm; D = 0.2 cm.
Excavations 1967, Sector N. ▼2.80 m.
M Khaskovo, Inv. No A 1149.
Fig. 22.3.

96. "Votive battle-axe".
Dark grey fine grained stone. Only the upper part of the item is preserved. The section is oval and ellipsoidal by the edge. Elongated ends of the cutting edge. Well worked out and polished surface.
L (preserved) 3 cm; L of the edge: 4.25 cm.
Assara (Constantia) Sector East, area E₃₀, ▼1.30 m.
NMH, Neg. No I-9-20; Field No 382.
Fig. 22.5.

97. Hammer-axe.
Stone. Polished. Only the back-side is preserved.
Assara 9Constantia Excavations 1978 (8.06.); Sector TS, C₇₉–C₈₀, ▼1.60 m.
NMH, Field No 253.
Fig. 22.6.

Axe.
Fine grained grey stone. Only the working part is preserved. Well worked out, polished surface.
Measurements: L (preserved) 4.1 cm.
Assara (Constantia) Sector East, area E₉₂, Tower No5, S: 0.m W: 0.90 m, ▼1.30 m. Out of initial context but close to Field No 366, fragmented cup.
NMH, Field. No 377.
Neg. No I-11-73.
Fig. 23.1.

98. Hammer-axe.
Black hard stone. Polished.
Excavations 1978; TS WPart C₈₀, S: 1.50; W: 1.90 m.▼1.60 m.
Measurements: L 6.4 cm; Th 3.5 cm.
NMH, Field No 268,
Neg. No II-490-10.

Fig. 23.2.

99. Adze.
Made of grey-blackish stone.
Trapezoidal shape, polished.
Measurements: L = 8.4 cm.
Assara (Constantia) TS WPart area J₉, ▼1.50–1.70 m.
NMH, Field No 284.
Fig. 23.3.

Catalogue of the finds from the Chavdarova Cheshma site.

100. Sherd of pot.
Colour: dark brown to black.
Slip: thick.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: coarse.
Scatter: black, two brown strips both sides.
Decoration: strokes, plastic bands.
Context: Chavdarova cheshma locality, Mount 1, Trench 1, ▼0.80–0.90 m.
Measurements: Dr = 28 cm.
Fig. 32.1.

101. Sherd of pot.
Colour: black to brown, spots.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: grey, even.
Decoration: strokes on the rim; perforations; plastic band and knob.
Context: Chavdarova cheshma locality, Mount 1, uppermost surface, Trench 1.
Measurements: Dr = 22 cm.
Fig. 32.2.

102. Sherd of pot.
Colour: dark brown to blackish.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black, even.
Decoration: Strokes on the rim and plastic band.
Context: Chavdarova cheshma locality, Mount 1, Trench 1; ▼0.80–0.90 m.
Fig. 32.3.

103. Sherd of pot.
Colour: brown with blackish spots both sides.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: brown, uneven.
Decoration: Perforations below the rim, plastic band.
Context: Chavdarova cheshma

locality, Mount 1, Trench 2.
Measurements: Dr = 20 cm.
Fig. 32.4.

104. Bowl.
Colour: dark grey.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in spots.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: light brown with two grey strips.
Decoration: No
Context: Mount 1, uppermost surface.
Measurements: H = 4.5 cm; Dr = 8 cm; Db = 5 cm.
Chavdarova cheshma locality M Khaskovo., Inv. No 1464, restored.
Fig. 33.1.

105. Ceramic model of wheel.
Colour: brown.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black-brown uneven.
Decoration: No
Context: Mount 1, uppermost surface.
Measurements: D = 9–9.3 cm.
Chavdarova cheshma locality. M Khaskovo.
Fig. 33.2.

106. Sherd of jug.
Colour: black with light brown spots, even black inside.
Slip: thin.
Treatment of the surface: burnished in strips.
Paste: semi-fine.
Scatter: light brown with two dark grey strips.
Decoration: two plastic knobs by the handle.
Context: Chavdarova cheshma locality, Mount 1, Trench 2.
Fig. 33.3

107. Sherd of pot.
Colour: black.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: unevenly smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: brown, even.
Decoration: Perforations below the rim.
Context: Chavdarova cheshma locality, Mount 1, from the surface.
Measurements: Dr = 30 cm.
Fig. 33.4.

108. Sherd of pot.
Colour: black.
Slip: middle thick.

Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: grey-brown.
Decoration: Perforations
below the rim, plastic band.
Context: Chavdarova cheshma
locality, Mount 1, from the surface.
Measurements: Dr = ?
Fig. 33.5.

109. Sherd of pot.
Colour: grey-black, spots.
Slip: No
Treatment of the sur-
face: smoothed carefully.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Context: Mount 1, upper-

most surface.
Scatter: even, black-grey.
Fig. 33.6.

110. Sherd of pot.
Colour: grey-black.
Slip: No
Treatment of the surface: smoothed.
Paste: semi-coarse.
Scatter: black.
Context: Mount 1, upper-
most surface.
Fig. 33.7.

111. Sherd of pot.
Colour: grey-black.
Slip: No

Treatment of the surface:
Paste: semi-coarse
Scatter: even, black-grey.
Context: Mount 1, upper-
most surface.
Fig. 33.8.

¹ The term "Grog" in Ameri-
can sense and meaning 'crushed
and powdered fired clay – ves-
sels, tiles, etc.' used for temper-
ing of the paste; cf. Shepard,
A. Ceramics for the archaeolo-
gist, Washington, D.C. 1976, 25.

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